

STARTING TODAY TWO FOR ONE TICKET OFFER: FLY TO ONE OF 11 CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS. SEE REVIEW, PAGE 10



THE INDEPENDENT

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IN THE MONDAY REVIEW NETWORK

Hundreds 'damaged' by surgeon

IN A MEDICAL scandal that is being described as potentially worse than the Bristol heart babies tragedy, more than 100 women may have been injured by an incompetent surgeon who was allowed to continue operating unchecked for more than a decade.

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
Health Editor
The scale of the response has astonished patient groups. They are demanding to know why nothing was done to stop the consultant surgeon, who was only struck off the medical register in September.

Mr Ledward, 58, was found guilty of serious professional misconduct by the General Medical Council after examination of his surgical record over seven years from 1989 to 1996. The GMC verdict was based on 10 cases in which operations were botched or should not have gone ahead, but scores more women have since come forward and more than 40 are considering legal action.

The hospital said it had received 179 calls from women since the case ended on 30 September, of whom 98 had so far been seen in out-patients. Doctors considered 24 of these had a continuing medical problem, but a hospital spokesman could not say how many others were damaged whose injuries had since been repaired.

Where they are entitled to claim compensation we are assisting them to do so," he said. A public meeting in Folkestone tonight, organised by the South-east Kent Community Health Council, is expected to hear demands for an inquiry into what went wrong. An earlier meeting organised by a patient support group on 29 October heard claims that Mr Ledward allegedly turned up for operations wearing hunting gear, including jodhpurs, and had once boasted that he was the fastest gynaecologist in the South-east after completing seven hysterectomies between 8am and noon.

His cavalier attitude to patients was revealed at the GMC hearing when it emerged that he had removed a woman's ovaries without her permission weeks after telling her that the organs were healthy. Doctors and managers from the William Harvey hospital are due to attend tonight's meeting to explain why nothing was done to stop Mr Ledward, who was appointed as a consultant in 1980.

The hospital has set up a hotline and is offering all affected women the opportunity to have an examination and further treatment as necessary. Patient groups say injured women have not complained until now because they did not know they were victims of surgical error. Mr Ledward also operated at the private Bupa

St Saviour's hospital in Hythe, Kent, and is alleged to have pressed women to go private by warning them they needed urgent treatment. In some cases he removed the wombs and ovaries of women in their twenties without consent when they could have had simpler treatment and retained their fertility. Brenda Johnson, organiser of the support group and a patient of Mr Ledward's who has suffered 14 years of pain, said: "He made such a mess of women in operation after operation. What they want to know is why it took 15 years to come out. They want the whole thing out in the open - they want people to know how many have suffered and what happened to them."

US puts air strikes on hold as Baghdad concedes

THE UNITED States and Britain last night drew away from a military showdown with Saddam Hussein, despite their continuing doubts about the chances of a lasting deal with Baghdad and an increasing desire to have the Iraqi leader removed.

BY ANDREW MARSHALL
in Washington and
RUPERT CORNWELL
The United States and Britain last night drew away from a military showdown with Saddam Hussein, despite their continuing doubts about the chances of a lasting deal with Baghdad and an increasing desire to have the Iraqi leader removed.

As United Nations weapons inspectors prepared last night to return to Iraq, the US and Britain warned Baghdad the crisis was not over, and massive air strikes remained on the table if it failed to co-operate fully. Washington also gave a first public signal that its goal was not only to get rid of Iraq's chemical and biological weapons, but also President Saddam.

Speaking after 24 hours which had taken the West to the brink of an armed onslaught against Baghdad, the US President, Bill Clinton, claimed victory, insisting Western pressure had forced President Saddam to back down. He added: "That is not enough. Now Iraq must live up to its obligations."

Mr Clinton laid out five conditions to this end: President Saddam had to settle all outstanding issues with the inspectors; allow "unfettered" access to all sites; hand over all documents; accept all UN resolutions; and cease interfering with the independence and professionalism of the inspectors.

But Mr Clinton went further still, vowing that the US would intensify its efforts to secure a new government in Iraq that was "committed to peace". His words could portend a shift in strategy away from the weapons inspections mechanism which allows President Saddam to provoke a crisis when he chooses, towards one aimed at undermining the Iraqi leader's power, either directly or by stepping up help to opposition groups.

Thus has ended - for the time being at least - the most dramatic confrontation between Baghdad and the Western allies since the 1991 Gulf War, in which Washington and London on Sat-

urday halted a bombardment by cruise missiles and strike aircraft on suspected Iraqi weapons facilities and military sites, just hours before it was due to start. "It was close, very close," said William Cohen, the US Secretary of Defense. Washington dismissed a first offer by President Saddam to allow the weapons inspectors back, calling it "as full of holes as a Swiss cheese".

But after two further missives from Baghdad to the UN Security Council and further statements by senior Iraqi officials, President Clinton grudgingly agreed to give his foe the benefit of the doubt.

During Saturday, Tony Blair talked eight times by phone with Mr Clinton and top US officials, before finally snatching some sleep at 5am yesterday.

After Iraq edged back from the brink, the Prime Minister echoed President Clinton's warning: the crisis would not end unless "absolute and unconditional compliance is guaranteed and delivered". Britain remained "ready, willing and able" to attack Iraq without warning.

In the aborted wave of attacks, RAF Tornados would have provided 20 per cent of the manned aircraft, alongside F-117 Stealth bombers and giant B-52 bombers, as well as some 200 Tomahawk cruise missiles launched from the air and from the small armada of American warships in the Gulf.

When the first "unconditional" Iraqi offer came through, Mr Blair, like Mr Clinton, had already signed off on the impending assault.

Now, the official Anglo-American game plan is to have the inspectors return as quickly as possible - they can be back on the ground in Iraq in 24 hours. At the first hint of impediment in their work, the bombs and missiles will be unleashed without warning.

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Tony Blair outside No 10 yesterday after late-night telephone discussions with President Bill Clinton

'Reselect all Labour MPs'

ONE OF Tony Blair's most trusted party modernisers last night heightened the row over Labour's "control freakery" with a call for all sitting MPs to be vetted by re-selection panels.

BY PAUL WAUGH
Political Correspondent

Fraser Kemp, the party's former general election co-ordinator, said even cabinet ministers should be subject to Millbank approval.

stand again if they get the backing of their local party, but all other Labour candidates face rigorous training and interviews.

Mr Kemp, MP for Houghton and Washington East, said the system would root out members who attacked the Government "every five minutes".

Mr Kemp said it was time to end such a system. Vetting panels were "not centralised control, but common sense," he told *The Independent*. "If we are to be consistent, it has to apply to Westminster MPs... I look at this from my own history as a party official... I saw the impact of a few self-indulgent people. They enabled our opponents to paint us as extremist, divided and out-of-touch."

The suggestion, backed by senior officials, is likely to be seen as a "softening-up exercise" ahead of a move to introduce the change at the next party conference. MPs would be interviewed by an NEC panel similar to those set up to vet candidates for councils, the Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly and London mayoralty.

A party spokesman said there were no plans to change the system, because to do so would make "martyrs" out of a handful of difficult MPs.

Critics say the system has been used to block left-wing candidates in Scotland and Wales and will be used to halt Ken Livingstone in London. Current rules allow MPs to

A backbencher said the plan was sure to cause uproar if Blair supporters tried to push it through the conference. "This would be the worst example of control freakery yet. Has Millbank finally gone mad?"

Why Does Your Memory Fail You?

A WORLD-FAMOUS memory expert, who has trained industrialists, trades unionists, businessmen, professional men, salesmen, housewives and students to improve their memories, once said:



"Many people are embarrassed by a poor memory, and find difficulty in concentrating; whilst others realise that they lose business, academic and social opportunities not only because they cannot remember accurately everything they see, hear or read, but also because they cannot think or express their thoughts clearly, logically and concisely. Some seek advice, but many do not, mainly because they believe their memories cannot be improved."

Forget names, faces?
get another appointment - ever! You could learn names, faces, facts, figures and foreign languages faster than you ever thought possible. You may be able to imprint whole books on your memory after a single reading. You could be more successful in your studies and examinations. At parties and dinners you may never again be at a loss for appropriate words or entertaining stories. In fact, you could even be more poised and self-confident in everything you say and do.

Simple Technique
And yet, he went on to explain, he has devised a simple technique which can improve even the poorest memory. What's more, it can even work like magic to give you added poise, self-confidence and greater personal effectiveness. Everyone owes it to himself to find out more about this method.

Rapid Results
According to this remarkable man, anyone - regardless of his present skill - could, in just 20 minutes a day, improve his memory and concentration to a remarkable degree. For example, you need never for-

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The heroes of British motor racing will be asked to sell Silverstone Home P3

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The start of a 4,000-year-old poem was found in a British Museum store Home P10

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This Student Life: down in the kitchen something horrible stirred...

READ THE LATEST INSTALMENT IN THE MANCHESTER UNDERGRADUATE SOAP

THE BEST WRITING IS IN 'THE INDEPENDENT' EVERY WEEK: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH McRAE, MARK STEEL, ROBERT FISK, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DONALD MACINTYRE, ANNE McEIVY, THOMAS SLICHT, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD

Hague says low tax is Christian policy

WILLIAM HAGUE will today argue the "Christian case for lower taxes" when he launches a campaign to reconnect the Conservative Party with its church-going roots.

In a direct challenge to Tony Blair's use of religion to underpin New Labour ideals, the Tory party leader will claim that individual freedom lies at the heart of Christianity.

Mr Hague will quote the Methodist pioneer John Wesley's edict to "gain all you can, save all you can and give all you can" when he delivers a keynote speech to the Conservative Christian Fellowship tonight.

Mr Hague, who will claim that sex before marriage is not a "sin", will also end his party's traditional dislike of the clergy interfering in politics and call for more clerics to debate government policy.

The new campaign is in part a response to Mr Blair's claim before the general election that Christians would find it difficult to vote Tory. Many Tories were furious with the comments and wanted a strong restatement of the religious values that underlie their party's belief in the family and self-reliance.

BY PAUL WAUGH
Political Correspondent
AND CLARE GARNER

Echoing Margaret Thatcher's infamous view that the Good Samaritan could not have helped anyone if he had not been rich, Mr Hague will say that Conservatives should not be afraid to make the "moral case for capitalism".

"Freedom and free will lie at the heart of Christianity. Conservative politicians and thinkers from Burke to Disraeli to Lord Hailsham have always drawn heavily on Judeo-Christian ideas," he will say. "Ideas about the freedom and dignity of individual human beings, about our mutual obligations to one another and our personal responsibility to care for our family and our neighbours."

However, in contrast to Baroness Thatcher's clashes with senior clerics, such as the Bishop of Durham over her economic policies, Mr Hague will encourage more clerical intervention. Several Tory officials were impressed two weeks ago when the new Bishop of Liverpool, the Rt Rev James Jones, appeared on tele-

vision and radio to attack government plans to remove the married man's tax allowance.

While admitting the Church of England can no longer be described as "the Tory party at prayer", Mr Hague will welcome such contributions and claim that Conservatives should not be afraid to use their faith to back their beliefs.

"Sometimes, people who've been in a leading role in the church have found it very easy to embrace collectivist, left-wing solutions to problems and, I think, placed too much faith in government intervention. I want to redress that balance a little and I want to form an alliance with those people who would like to see the church do that."

A new Conservative and Churches Standing Committee will be created in an effort to re-establish contact with the Church of England, particularly in the inner cities.

"It's important that the Conservative Party reconnects with the churches," Mr Hague said last night. "A lot of people thought that we didn't listen to people enough in the last few years. Whether they were right

or wrong about that, we now have to put straight that perception."

"I'll also be talking about the importance of voluntary action, of charitable activity, of how they're often much more effective at helping people than action taken by governments and local authorities, which can be extremely insensitive."

Gary Streeter MP, chairman of the Conservative Christian Fellowship, denied that Mr Hague was trying to win the moral majority. "Our view is that we need Christians in all parties," he said.

"Over the last 18 years we became disconnected from a lot of church groups. It was a period when we appeared to become more concerned about pounds, shillings and pence than wider, deeper values."

The CCF was founded eight years ago and has more than 1,000 members, including Ann Widdecombe, Peter Lilley and Sir Brian Mawhinney. In the recently published book of interviews, *Christians in the House*, Ms Widdecombe espoused her belief in "Christian capitalism".

Steve Richards, Review, page 3



Captain Norman Edwards, 104, laying a wreath yesterday at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, during the Tank Regiment remembrance service; two tanks - a 1918 Mark V and a modern Challenger 2 - were present. First time tanks have been seen in Whitehall since the Victory Parade of 1919. Richard



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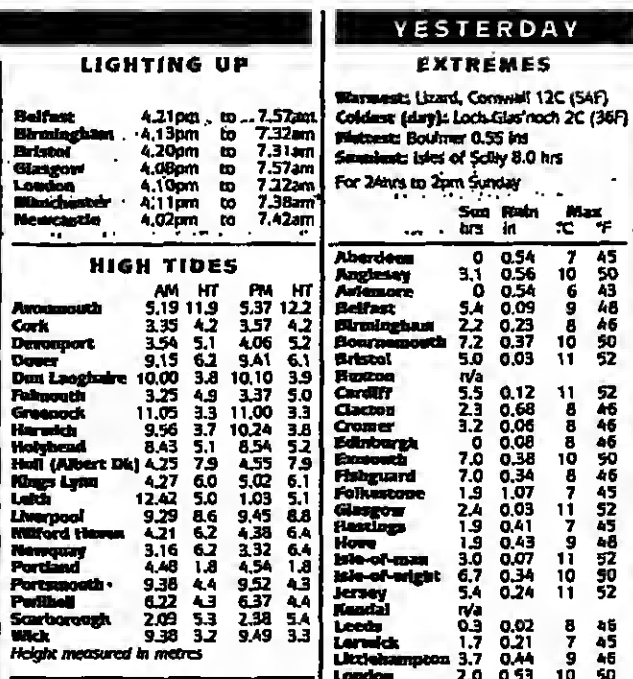
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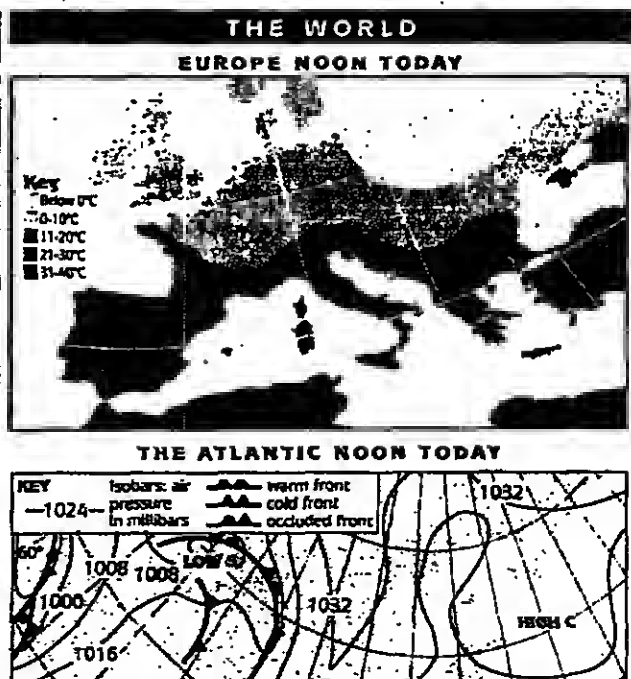
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Referendum coming 'this parliament'

TONY BLAIR will win round his cabinet and hold a referendum on electoral reform before the next election, the Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown, claimed yesterday.

Mr Ashdown defended his decision to create a new "Lib-Lab" agreement with the strongest hint yet that the Prime Minister had pledged to hold a poll in this Parliament.

He rounded on critics of his closer co-operation with Labour with a declaration that the deal represented an "historic moment" to transform Britain's political landscape.

He admitted that Mr Blair still had to persuade those cabinet ministers opposed to reform, but predicted that within a year the Government would be ready to fulfil its manifesto pledge to stage the referendum before the election.

Mr Ashdown said Mr Blair was "intellectually and emotionally" committed to reform. "The Prime Minister has moved his position from being unopposed and hostile to PR, to warm and presumed to be in favour of it."

"That is not insignificant. There is still an excellent chance of getting a referendum this side of the next election. I believe the Prime Minister would like to see it too."

In what was seen at Westminster as an indication that Mr Ashdown agreed to the new deal only in return for strong assurances on electoral reform, he said that the co-operation

made it "more likely" that change would be delivered.

Mr Ashdown today faces a stormy meeting of his party's ruling Federal Executive when critics will try to overturn the deal. However, he said that the agreement did not stop Liberal Democrats at local level opposing corrupt Labour councils.

The attempt to extend co-operation could instead usher in a new age of a "progressive liberal centre" that could rule Britain for the foreseeable future.

"I believe we can assemble a progressive liberal centre in this country, we can put together a movement of parties that can work together," he told Radio 4's *The World This Week*.

"There's a slight logical consistency between those in my party who argue for proportional representation, but are not prepared to touch with a large pole the kind of policies it would bring into operation."

"It does not, I think, reflect very well on the party if you ask people at the last election to vote for a more co-operative style of politics and then was not prepared to do it when they got their vote in the following Parliament," he said.

Simon Hughes, the party's health spokesman, renewed his opposition to the plans yesterday. He said "many people" in the party were unhappy with the deal and could trigger a special party conference to discuss it.

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£41m bid opens race for Silverstone

THE HEROES of British motor racing, including such names as Stirling Moss, Jackie Stewart and Nigel Mansell, will today be asked to sell Silverstone, home of the British Grand Prix. In return, each stands to receive £50,000. Lord Hesketh, chairman of the 800-strong British Racing Drivers' Club (BRDC), which owns Silverstone, confirmed to *The Independent* yesterday that a £41m bid for the track had been received.

The drivers will be told today

BY ANDREW MULLINS, GARY FINN AND DAVID LISTER

by letter. The bid has been tabled by John Lewis, until recently chairman of Silverstone Estates, the management company. He is backed by HSBC Private Equity. Speculation that BSKyB had also bid, which would give Rupert Murdoch another prize in televised sport, was denied by BSKyB and Lord Hesketh, though he did say: "There may well be other

offers in the future. The explosion in sport on television is driving people to look at sports assets." He added: "Silverstone is the Manchester United of motor racing."

It is the latest example of the wave of big-money purchases – or attempted purchases of the icons of British sport. Manchester United could be sold to BSKyB. Celtic faces a bid from a group led by Kenny Dalglish and several of the country's most famous rugby clubs have

been sold to businessmen. In some cases, like Richmond and Saracens, this has meant a move many miles from their original homes.

Fans can watch the British Grand Prix on terrestrial television until at least 2002, when ITV deals run out. Two years ago ITV landed a body-blow to BBC sports coverage by wresting away Formula One coverage in a £70m bid for the rights. While Bernie Ecclestone, who controls the television

rights to Formula One, previously spoke up for free coverage, analysts point to his increasing involvement with digital camera technology as hints at a global pay-per-view television empire. The decision to sell is likely to prove as tortuous as the recent sale of the RAC club in London's Pall Mall. Battle lines are being drawn between the multi-millionaire team owners and less wealthy former drivers.

Murray Walker, broadcast-

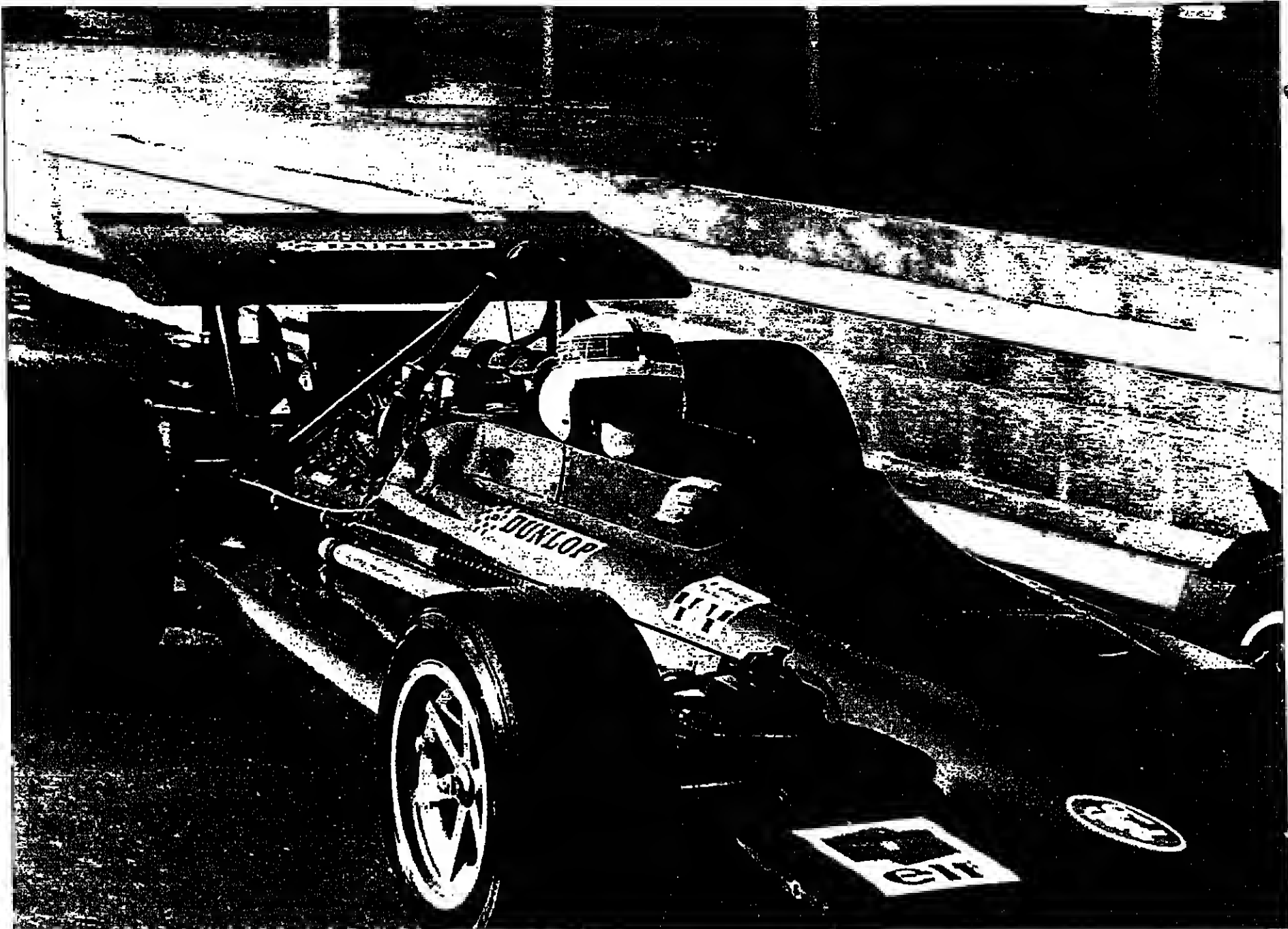
ing's voice of motor racing, and an associate member by invitation, said: "I would imagine most members of the BRDC would be less happy for it to be bought out than most members of the RAC just belong to a London club; the BRDC people are different. All the members are fiercely proud of the club. There are very stringent membership requirements. This means they are not likely to be too keen on it becoming a com-

mercial organisation. Unless of course they thought they were going to make a bundle of dough out of it. That tends to alter people's attitudes."

Ken Tyrrell, a former racing team owner, who led the campaign to fight off a previous bid, said of the present one: "My understanding is that 75 per cent of the members have to approve it and I would have thought that extremely unlikely. I feel it is my responsibility to hand it on to the racing drivers of the future." But John

Watson, 1981 British Grand Prix winner and a former BRDC board member, said that the possibility of gaining relatively large sums from the sale could be attractive to drivers.

"Silverstone is the motor-racing version of a golf club. I think the sale of the club is inevitable... I'm sure this will create a bit of a firestorm among the membership, which has tended to go to sleep from time to time."



Jackie Stewart (right) in action on the fabled Silverstone track, where Keke Rosberg (below, left) became the first to lap at a 160mph average. Other greats there included Stirling Moss (top centre), with Juan Fangio (right)

Racing legends forged on the people's circuit

FROM ITS unpromising beginnings as an abandoned wartime bomber airfield, the Silverstone circuit nears its fiftieth anniversary secure in its standing as the headquarters of British motor racing and the repository of many historic deeds by the greatest post-war grand prix drivers.

Once rivalled by Brands Hatch, Goodwood and Aintree, the Northamptonshire circuit established its pre-eminence 10 years ago when its owners signed a long-term deal with Bernie Ecclestone, granting it exclusive rights to hold the British Grand Prix, one of the major events of the sporting summer.

From this annual three-day meeting, which attracts crowds in the region of 200,000 paying ticket prices that would embarrass Glyndebourne, springs the prosperity of a circuit which is also in constant use for other types of international and domestic racing, as well as mid-week test sessions by professional teams.

Located on an unremarkable plateau, surrounded by good farming land, the circuit was initially laid out around the broad perimeter runways by members of the British Racing Drivers' Club, who were looking for

BY RICHARD WILLIAMS

somewhere to replace Brooklands, the pre-war speed bowl, as the centre of their activities. Brooklands, tucked away in the Surrey commuter belt, had been commandeered for wartime use as an aircraft testing centre, and was permanently hors de combat as far as racing was concerned.

Its slogan had been "The right crowd – and no crowding", but Silverstone, set in the centre of England, an hour's drive from the West Midlands heart of the British motor industry, offered a more democratic ambience right from the start.

By the late 1960s, when the fans of Nigel Mansell thronged the circuit and invaded the track itself to celebrate his victories, the atmosphere was not far from that of an FA Cup Final. Unlike the twisting Kentish switchback of Brands Hatch, Silverstone was a circuit built for high speed, with long straights and sweeping curves designed to test the nerve of the very best and bravest.

In recent years almost all of its corners have been tightened or otherwise modified in a bid to reduce speeds and promote safety, but last year some of the changes were undone in a suc-

cessful effort to restore some of the original character of the track.

Its history as a setting for big events goes back to 1950, when it hosted the first round of the opening season of the Formula One world championship. Giuseppe Farina won the race in one of the all-conquering Alfa Romeos, and went on to take the title. Froilan Gonzalez, Juan Manuel Fangio and Alberto Ascari were among other winners in the early years; the first Briton to win his home grand prix at Silverstone was the dashing young Peter Collins, who brought his Ferrari to victory in 1958, a few weeks before his death at the Nurburgring.

Curiously, Stirling Moss never won the British Grand Prix there – but Jim Clark did, three times, and Jackie Stewart twice, and James Hunt. More recent years have seen victories by virtually all the great contemporary names: Prost, Senna, Mansell, Schumacher, Damon Hill.

The eyes of historically minded Formula One fans moisten at the memory of Clark beating Graham Hill in a tense finish in 1968; of Ronnie Peterson, the brilliant Swede, taking the old Woodcote Corner flat out in his Lotus in the early Sev-

enties; of Keke Rosberg becoming the first man to lap the circuit at an average of 160mph; and of Mansell forcing his way past Nelson Piquet, his team mate and bitter rival, at Stowe Corner one memorable afternoon in the late Eighties.

The track's safety record has been generally excellent. Elio de Angelis' accident at the end of the first lap of the 1973 grand prix, involving more than half the cars in the field, resulted in only a single minor injury. Regularly resurfaced with high-grip bitumen, the track has been surrounded by the latest in safety features and marshalling aids.

For the paying customers, the Silverstone experience has changed beyond recognition.

Thirty years ago, half a crown bought any spectator a paddock pass, providing an unrestricted opportunity to rub shoulders with the champions. Nowadays the drivers and their teams are shut away behind high-security wire fences.

But no modernisation can affect the circuit's two most notable features: its very British ability to provide a heatwave and a hailstorm within the course of a single hour; and the occasional appearance, in the midst of a race, of a startled hare.

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Politeness breaks out in jails

PRISON OFFICERS are being urged to address inmates by their first names or to use their surnames with the prefix "Mr" in a measure designed to reduce tension in prisons.

For some prison old-timers, the thought of the real-life equivalent of Mr MacKay, from BBC TV's *Porridge*, shouting not "Old Fletcher" but "Could I have a word, Norman?" will come as something of a shock.

But Sir David Ramsbotham, the Chief Inspector of Pris-

BY IAN BURRELL
Home Affairs Correspondent

ons, believes that if staff are prepared to show inmates more respect the risk of violent incidents will be reduced and prisoners will feel more inclined to spend their time in useful rehabilitative activity.

Sir David has been impressed by the use of first names and "Mr" or "Miss" in the handful of privately-run prisons where relations between pris-

oners and staff are noticeably better than in the rest of the Prison Service. The suggestion that staff should be more respectful to prisoners was angrily received by the Prison Officers' Association.

FOA national executive member Bev Lord said that first-name terms might encourage some inmates to partake in "conditioning", where they try to ingratiate themselves with staff in order to breach security or gain privi-

leges. She said: "It's also important that young offenders call officers 'Sir', in the same way that schoolchildren show respect for their teachers."

But Sir David's views have received some support in high quarters in the Prison Service. Head of Regimes Martin Narey said: "All the private prisons call the prisoners 'Mr' or by their Christian names," he said.

"That has been the biggest single factor in helping prisoners build their self-esteem."

مكتبة الامير

Anger in US at Iraq's narrow escape

THE UNITED States shifted its rhetoric from the issue of United Nations arms inspectors to the removal of Saddam Hussein yesterday, amid mounting frustration after the Iraqi President dodged another David and Goliath military confrontation.

The crisis demonstrated "that Saddam Hussein remains an impediment to the well-being of his people and a threat to the peace of his region and the security of the world", said the US President, Bill Clinton, yesterday. "Over the long term, the best way to address that threat is through a government in Baghdad - a new government that is committed to represent and respect its people, not to oppress them, that is committed to peace in the region."

There will now be intense congressional criticism of Mr Clinton, for failing to press ahead with military action when he had the chance, and new demands for efforts to replace President Saddam. "There must be a successor regime in Iraq that will treat the world better than that of Saddam," said Senator Richard Lugar, a Republican. "It would appear that Saddam is going to keep the weapons, and this is going to lead either to his overthrow by the people of his country or... a military action by the rest of the world," he said.

Washington was declaring victory last night in its stand-off with Iraq, as Baghdad allowed UN weapons inspectors to return. But the confrontation was never about just the weapons inspectors: it was also about a much more direct attempt by the US to undermine President Saddam by military force; that has been thwarted.

The US decided after the last confrontation with Iraq, in February, that the arms inspection effort had run out of steam. It had always been essentially dependent on Iraqi consent, and when that consent was not forthcoming, the only option was to threaten military force. After going up that hill and com-

BY ANDREW MARSHALL
in Washington

ing back down several times, Washington became more and more aware that it was running out of ways to make the inspection effort stick.

For the last six months, the US has not been pressing its problems about the inspectors, letting a head of steam build up for a much more comprehensive programme of attacks. The air strikes that were planned were to start last Saturday, with Tomahawk cruise missiles, but to proceed with a much more in-depth attempt to "degrade" Iraq's military infrastructure and target key political sites as well. The hope was to build a consensus for strikes externally while preparing the ground militarily in the Gulf.

The White House had been urged by security advisers to strike last week, and it is believed that originally, the Pentagon planned a programme of attacks last Wednesday. But instead, it had held back until more aircraft were in the region. It is possible that the US Air Force, as well as the US Navy, wanted to participate: only yesterday did B-52s leave Louisiana. The strikes were to continue into next week.

President Clinton was to leave for the Apec Asian summit on Saturday, but had secretly decided not to go, and prepared the Vice-President, Al Gore, for the trip. Mr Clinton gave the order for air strikes late on Friday night, and the attacks were to begin at about 10am Washington time (3pm Greenwich Mean Time). At eight, the White House learnt of the new Iraqi offer, which threw everything into chaos. With an Iraqi proposal on the table which was broadly accepted by France, Russia, China and Iraq's Arab neighbours, that all broke up.

Throughout the crisis, the US has signalled clearly to those around President Saddam who oppose him that it wanted a change of regime. "We



Students being given flags as a crane lowers a huge poster of President Saddam Hussein in the Iraqi capital yesterday to celebrate Baghdad Day, marking the founding of the city more than 1,200 years ago. Reuters

would look forward to working with somebody else," said the US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, on Friday, as the US prepared to strike.

The US has also been developing a new approach to the Iraqi opposition. "Over the past year we have deepened our engagement with the forces of change in Iraq, reconciling

the two largest Kurdish opposition groups, beginning broadcasts of a Radio Free Iraq throughout the country," Mr Clinton said. "We will intensify that effort... to do what we can to make the opposition a more effective voice for the aspirations of the Iraqi people."

The problem is that the Iraqi opposition is still too splintered

and incoherent to present a clear threat to the regime. The US has often preferred to focus on stoking up military dissent against President Saddam, in the hope of provoking a coup against him, although without success. It is possible Washington hoped a week's worth of air strikes might lead to growing opposition within the Iraqi

military, and an attempt to oust him. The end of the current crisis leaves Mr Clinton's security team with no apparent strategy for countering President Saddam. The weapons inspection effort can resume, although no one in Washington was pretending yesterday that they believed it would be an effective method of containment. After this, it will be very difficult for the US to line up diplomatic backing for air strikes again.

"There were many people to the administration who wanted - and expected - that we would significantly weaken Saddam with a heavy, sustained bombing campaign," an administration official told the New York Times. "But once again, we've hitched our wagon with Un-

scorn, even though Unscorn doesn't work anywhere." Robert Fisk, Review page 4

Saddam claims victory in face of defeat

IRAQ COVERED its retreat in the face of an allied air attack by announcing a famous victory over the United States yesterday. *Al-Thawra*, the Baghdad daily, said: "The leadership's decision pulled the rug out from under the feet of the American administration."

Babel, the influential newspaper published by Uday, the elder son of President Saddam Hussein, claimed the threat of military attack was seen as "a cruel joke" by Iraqis, because existing United Nations sanctions had already "made them suffer more than [any] military attack".

All the Iraqi papers carried the text of the Iraqi leadership's letter to Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, alongside a photograph of President Saddam meeting his Revolutionary Command Council and the leaders of the ruling Baath party, who approved the letter.

Any sense of humiliation as a result of the latest crisis among Iraqis is likely to be submerged by relief that they are not, once again, going to be the target of missiles and bombs.

Ordinary Iraqis follow diplomatic developments in detail by listening obsessively to foreign radio stations in Arabic, such as the BBC or Radio Monte Carlo.

The crisis is already having an effect on Iraqi food supplies because it led to the withdrawal of inspectors from Lloyd's Register who certify imports entering the country under the oil-for-food programme of 1996. "There is a hold-up at the border," said Eric Falt, spokesman for the UN humanitarian programme. "It is difficult to gauge because there are no personnel at three of the border entry points."

Mr Falt said the UN was delaying the return of its humanitarian staff to Baghdad, which they left last week, because the Security Council has not finished its debate on Iraq's decision to let arms inspectors back into the country. "It has been decided that the staff should remain in Amman for the time being," said Mr Falt. The return of the UN staff will be seen by Iraqis that the crisis has ended.

The last-minute climbdown by Iraq on the eve of the greatest air attack since 1991 is an admission that the Iraqi leader miscalculated the international response to his latest confrontation with the weapons inspectors.

One Iraqi commentator, living abroad, said: "He expect-

BY PATRICK COCKBURN

ed to fragment the UN Security Council and the Arab world, but in fact he united them against him."

President Saddam may pay a price for this miscalculation. Future confrontation with UN inspectors will be difficult for him to stage without inviting an immediate military response by the US and Britain.

While President Saddam dislikes the UN Special Committee (Unscorn) on the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, it can only operate in Iraq with his co-operation. In the past this has enabled the Iraqi leader to stage a crisis whenever he wanted, simply by withdrawing Iraqi assistance from Unscorn.

The crisis has seen other worrying developments for President Saddam. After the Gulf War in 1991 the US did not want to see him replaced by a revolution of Shia Muslims.



Saddam Hussein: May pay price for his miscalculation

the community which makes up the majority of the Iraqi population. Washington feared that such a change would benefit only neighbouring Iran.

The US also opposed self-determination for the Iraqi Kurds. The result was that America pulled its punches in trying to overthrow the Iraqi leader. It wanted to see him go, but only if he was replaced by a figure from the Sunni Muslim establishment.

Seven years on, such inhibitions have lost their strength. While American relations with Iran have slightly improved, a visit by Kurdish leaders to Washington last December also saw the US Administration move towards recognising the national rights of Iraqi Kurds.

President Bill Clinton also faces pressure from Republicans in Congress to take active measures to overthrow President Saddam.

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Swimming pool disappears overnight

Members of Brynryan Municipal Council were today scratching their heads and pondering the disappearance of their once proudly-owned public swimming baths. Benused attendants at the Olympic standard pool in St. Rd., West Brynryan, turned up yesterday confronted by a not 30,000-gallon charinated diving tower, ing rooms and used space. Ex the identifying the cause of the disappearance as a hijack by a local council. It appears that the public baths were built at the rear of Brynryan last time, which closed at the

turn of the century. The only problem was that none at the local surveyors' office was aware of the mine's existence, there having been an original plan to build an original swimming pool.

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and incoherent to present a clear threat to the regime. The US has often preferred to focus on stoking up military dissent against President Saddam, in the hope of provoking a coup against him, although without success. It is possible Washington hoped a week's worth of air strikes might lead to growing opposition within the Iraqi

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Gynaecology scandal: Hospital investigation found that 50 of doctor's operations ended with 'serious complications'

Surgeon 'went against basic medical procedure'

RODNEY LEDWARD was an incompetent and irresponsible surgeon. The catalogue of harm he caused to patients was horrific. While performing a hysterectomy on one woman he perforated her bladder. After ordering a test, he left her bleeding, and went home, having switched off his mobile phone.

In another case, the consultant gynaecologist from Kent performed a hysterectomy on a 48-year-old woman so badly that she lost two litres of blood. He then wrote to her GP to say the procedure had been "uncomplicated". In fact, the blood had leaked into her abdomen and required further surgery to remove it and her condition had been approaching a state of haemorrhagic shock.

This much we know from the investigation by the General Medical Council (GMC) last

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
Health Editor

September which ended with Mr Ledward, a doctor for 33 years, being struck off the medical register. What is only now becoming clear is the scale of the damage he caused.

The charges in the GMC hearing related to 14 cases over a period of seven years from 1989 to January 1996 when Mr Ledward was suspended from his National Health Service post at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, Kent. Charges in four of the cases were not proved and Mr Ledward was found guilty of serious professional conduct on the basis of the remaining ten. He is now barred from practising in the NHS and in private sector.

In the six weeks since the ending of the case, 179 women

have contacted the hospital in the belief that they, too, may have been victims of Mr Ledward. A public meeting held on 29 October was packed with 65 people when a dozen had been expected. Women who had suffered in silence for years stood up in front of strangers and described intimate symptoms which had left them debilitated and in some cases had destroyed their lives.

June Halkins, chief executive of the South-east Kent Community Health Council, who attended the meeting organised by a patient support group, said: "The stories were very moving. I was amazed how many were prepared in a quiet and dignified way to talk of their experiences."

Mr Ledward was appointed consultant gynaecologist at the William Harvey hospital in 1980 but he also operated at St Saviour's private hospital in Hythe

run by the insurer Bupa and at other private hospitals. During the GMC hearing, two former colleagues testified that he had gone against "basic medical procedures" in operating on one patient. The GMC found that in three of the ten cases, the treatment he gave was "inappropriate" or had "no scientific basis."

After Mr Ledward was suspended in January 1996, an internal inquiry at the William Harvey examined 150 of his operations and found that one-third had ended with serious complications of which 12 showed evidence of incompetence. What is unexplained is why a surgeon whose errors were so gross that patients almost bled to death and whose colleagues were left to patch up his mistakes, was allowed to continue in practice for so long. The hospital maintains that

it acted as soon as it had sufficient evidence. A spokesman said: "We are very concerned about these women and we are trying to meet their needs. There had been concerns expressed about Mr Ledward but there is a difference between allegations and evidence. Establishing evidence of surgical incompetence is very difficult."

Jean Robinson, a former GMC member and a researcher at the Association for Improvements in Maternity Services, said: "This is much worse than the Bristol case [in which babies died from heart surgery]. No one suggested the Bristol surgeons... acted recklessly or operated when they didn't need to. We need an external inquiry to discover who knew what when, who was responsible and how many other of these guys there are around."



Brenda Johnson of Lympne in Kent, on whom Rodney Ledward carried out a disastrous hysterectomy at St Saviour's Hospital in Hythe in 1984. David Giles

Victim had to endure 14 years of suffering

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

THE DAY before her hysterectomy, Brenda Johnson sat on the hills outside Dover and cried. She was 36 and she had a six-year-old son but she had recently moved down from the north to live with her new partner, Roy, and she wanted more children.

"I sobbed my eyes out that day because I didn't believe the operation was necessary. When you are young you believe in doctors and you put your life in their hands. Now I would argue the point with anyone. I learnt a bitter lesson. I wish I had listened to my inner self."

That was in 1984. Fourteen years later, Mrs Johnson still suffers pain and discomfort as a result of the surgery performed by Rodney Ledward. For two years she could not walk and she was on painkillers for ten.

She had been told her condition was so urgent she should go private and the operation was carried out at St Saviour's Hospital in Hythe, Kent.

Afterwards she bled profusely, losing 28 pints of blood and fluid. The staff made frantic attempts to contact Mr Ledward without success.

An anaesthetist warned that she needed multiple transfusions and as her condition deteriorated in the early hours the staff called Roy, Mrs Johnson's partner, and told him to come to the hospital without delay.

"I was fading fast. When Mr Ledward turned up the next morning I had a very brutal operation in which he put in 76 stitches to try to stem the bleeding. The anaesthetist told

me they had gone in like an army of Irish navvies with their boots on. They couldn't be gentle because I was dying and they didn't know where I was bleeding from."

The traumatic surgery left her permanently damaged but after another operation she refused further surgery because she was too frightened. She begged to be referred to a different gynaecologist but her GP refused, saying that it was unethical.

"When I left hospital I felt like a lump of jelly. I couldn't look after my six-year-old son. He used to bring me milk and jam butties. I was too ill to cuddle him."

"It was a massive strain on the family. I have never held a full-time job since because I never felt well enough. I have spent most of the time going to see doctors. It has cost the NHS a fortune to sort out my case."

Mrs Johnson, now of Lympne, near Ashford in Kent, sued Mr Ledward but the judge decided that she was the victim of an accident and he was not to blame.

She was originally treated for a bladder problem but has been told since that it could have been dealt with by a minor operation or physiotherapy.

She now organises a patients' support group and has received letters from former patients of Mr Ledward's from all over the country and abroad. "They are angry. They want revenge for what was done to them," she said.

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THE INDEPENDENT
Monday 16 November 1993

complications



Rodney Ledward carried on a stretcher in 1984. David G...

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ring

BY JEREMY LARINE

me they had come in like a
army of Irish men with their
hands on. They couldn't be
the because I was doing as
they didn't know where I was
bleeding from.

The trauma of surgery left
her permanent scars, but after
another operation she refused
further surgery because she was too old.

She begged the hospital to
different procedures but her
A&E refused. She was
unethical.

"When I first hospitalised
like a lump of coal, I could
look after my 15-year-old son.
He used to bring me milk and
jam tarts. I was a devoted
mother."

"It was a real strain on
the family. I have never had a
full-time job since because I
never felt well enough. I have
spent most of that time
seeing doctors. It has cost the NHS
a fortune to sort out my case."

Mrs. John, a widow of 10 years,
met me at the hospital. She said
Mr. Ledward had the police de-
clared that he was the victim
of an accident and he was not to
blame.

She was very angry to hear
a doctor had said he had been
told a nurse that he could have
been doing well with a minor
operation or procedure.

She had a long and
recently suffered from heart
trouble. She had been told
over the years and about
the operation. They were
wrong. In what was done to
the patient.

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Student jobs take up two days a week

STUDENTS ARE spending the equivalent of two days a week working in part-time jobs to make ends meet, according to a survey by academics. As many as 30 universities now run recruitment agencies on their campuses.

Some students are even taking on full-time jobs on top of full-time university courses, according to research to be unveiled at a conference next month.

Academics fear that standards may fall because undergraduates spend too much time away from their books. They say some degree courses may have to be extended to cope with sharp increases in the numbers of students working their way through college.

A survey by researchers at the University of Central England found that more than 40 per cent of full-time undergraduates were holding down a part-time job, up from less than one-third three years ago. They believe that up to 70 per cent of students nationally may now be supplementing their income to help with the new

BY BEN RUSSELL
Education Correspondent

£1,000-a-year university tuition fees.

Lindsey Bowes, one of the researchers, said: "People are looking at 60 to 70 per cent of their full-time students working their way through university. There is evidence which suggests that this does have an impact on the student experience."

Student leaders warned that undergraduates faced a "stark choice between working to pay the rent and going to the library".

The survey, for the National Union of Students, estimates that as many as 80,000 students had regular part-time jobs. Andrew Pakes, NUS national president, said: "A lot of student jobs are not about transferable skills, they are stacking shelves or serving in bars and night-clubs and they are worked like donkeys."

"Outside London the Government reckons you can live on £3,500. You only have to look at rents to see the students have to work. The danger is that we are moving towards an

American-style system where students work through university, but that will damage the ethos of higher education and could be damaging to degrees."

Tom Wilson, head of higher education at the lecturers' union NAITFHE, which is organising next month's conference, said that there had been a sharp increase in the number of students forced to work to support their studies.

He said: "There is already evidence that it does have an impact on drop-out rates. It may be leading people to extend the length of their course and it could mean that students pass their degrees, but with a 2.2 rather than a 2.1."

At De Montfort University in Leicester, a commercial agency Workbank has placed more than 100 students in part-time jobs since the beginning of term. Mike Fettes, a former president of the university's students' union who now works for the agency, said: "With so many students now facing annual tuition fees [jobs] can bring in some much-needed extra cash without eating into study time."

'How yo-yos help me manage on a shoestring'

CAROLINE SHEPPARD, a marketing and law student, said a six-week spell marketing yo-yos was essential to help pay for her final year at university.

Miss Sheppard, a final-year student at De Montfort University, Leicester, has been working 12 to 20 hours a week to earn £600 to supplement her £900 grant and £1,200 student loan.

She got the job through a new employment agency on campus after returning with a large overdraft after a year travelling.

"My grant does not even cover my rent. With my student loans as well, I'm still left with a minus. Because I'm in my final year my social life is not huge, but the books alone cost £170. I'm working as well as studying full-time and [it] really is full-time. In a perfect world I would rather have the time to study, but the job does look good on my CV. It's quite a common thing for people to work but the course work is heavy as well."

"Unless your parents will support you at university you will have to work."



Caroline Sheppard



The Poseidon Fountain at Witley Court near Worcester, in the grounds of which up to 40 sculptures will be displayed

Andrew Fox

Art park to be set among ruins

A NEW sculpture park with £500,000-worth of modern British works is to be developed in historic parkland surrounding a beautiful ruined Victorian mansion.

The Jerwood Foundation, known for its prestigious annual prize for contemporary art, is joining forces with English Heritage for the venture at Witley Court near Worcester. It will be

BY LOUISE JURY

the third full-size sculpture park in Britain, after Yorkshire and Goodwood in West Sussex.

The first work which will be displayed is a bronze sculpture nearly seven feet high by the late Dame Elizabeth Frink called *Walking Man*, purchased for just over £30,000. The aim is to buy up to 40 works

over the next three years for the extensive grounds of Witley Court which are being restored. One-third of the sculptures will be by established artists, one-third by artists living and working in the West Midlands and the remainder by young sculptors. "I think it will sit well with our painting prize. It is a proper way of making a statement for

sculpture, creating a facility for people to see sculpture in a wonderful setting," said Alan Grieve, chairman and director of the Jerwood Foundation.

Witley Court was owned by a number of wealthy families from the early 17th century. The existing buildings, which are mainly Victorian, were destroyed by fire in 1937.

The sculpture park is part of

£7m capital expenditure planned by the foundation, set up to commemorate John Jerwood, a pearl dealer. It has not previously given capital grants. Other projects include an award of £900,000 to the Natural History Museum to restore a major gallery to display drawings, paintings and prints, and £1.4m to Trinity Hall, Cambridge, for a new Jerwood Library.

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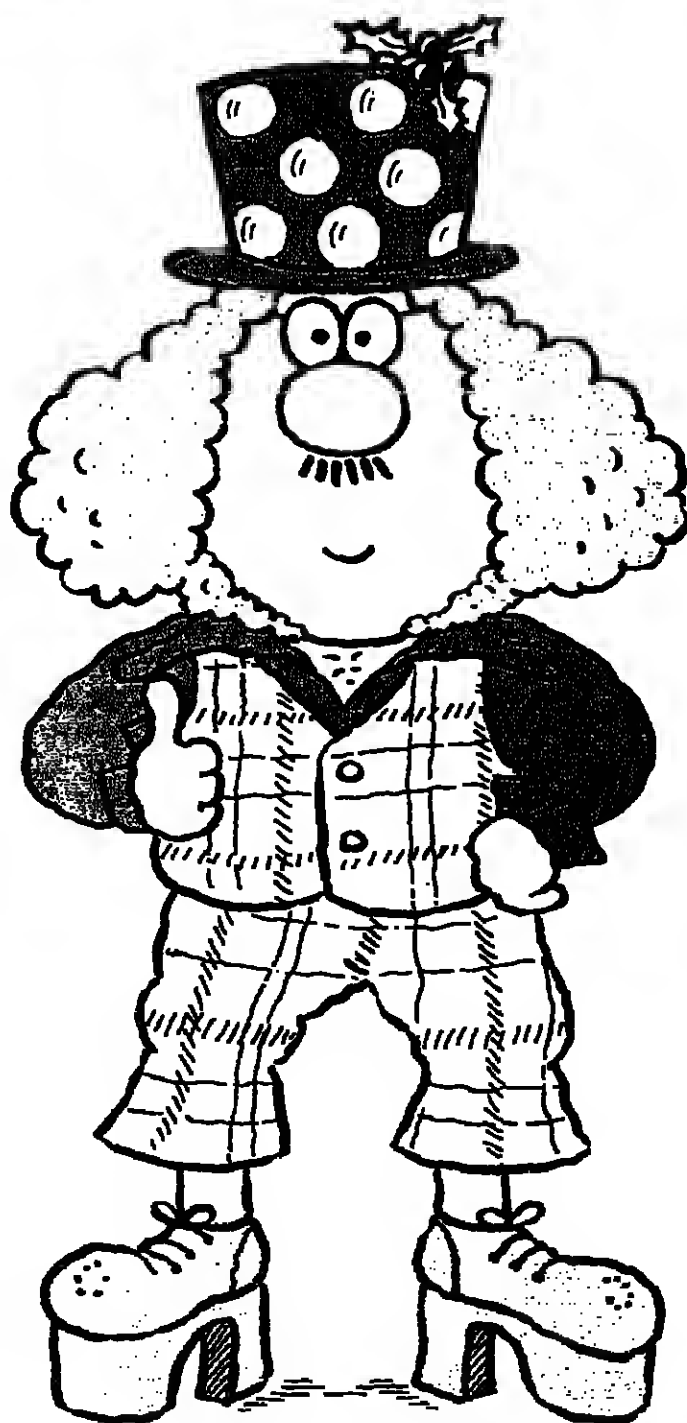
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Drinks wars start as store cuts prices

SUPERMARKET CHAIN Sainsbury's is slashing the price of beer and wines to win pre-Christmas business from cross-Channel "booze cruises".

The company hopes that by cutting prices on lager and other goods it will persuade shoppers that hopping over to France to stock up on festive supplies is not worth the trouble. The move, which includes cuts of £2 off a pack of 30 25cl Bierre de Moulins lagers, is likely to trigger a price war among other supermarkets before Christmas.

At £5.99, the 30-pack will still be more expensive than in France, but the supermarket says it will make cross-Channel shoppers think twice.

A spokesman said: "We are trying to show that people do not have to go to France to stock up for Christmas. Once they have paid for petrol, the ferry and everything else, they may as well stay here."

The Sainsbury's campaign is already being mirrored in pro-

BY JIM ARMITAGE

motions at Morrisons and Asda supermarkets on brands like Labatt's Ice, Tennent's Extra and Heineken Export.

Asda was today reported as being set to offer vintage Dom Perignon champagne at £49.99 a bottle instead of the usual £69.99. The retailing industry estimates cross-Channel sales account for 17 per cent of the beer drunk in Britain.

British-sold beer is subject to far higher duty levels than in France. Sainsbury's is backing its cheaper alcohol campaign with price cuts on turkeys and other festive foods.

European duty-free sales were worth more than £1bn to the UK last year - a 17% rise on the 1996 figure - and more than twice that for the next highest EU member - Finland. The statistics highlighted the need to fight next year's scrapping of duty-free and tax-free shopping, the Duty-Free Confederation said.

Siamese twins 'stable' after life-saving op

SIAMESE TWINS separated in an emergency operation to save their lives remained in a "stable" condition in hospital yesterday.

The four-day-old girls, who had been joined at the liver, are in intensive care at Great Ormond Street children's hospital, where a spokeswoman said they had spent "a peaceful day" following "a very settled night".

The girls, who come from the Bristol area, lie side by side on ventilators while they recover from their three-hour operation which took place on Saturday.

Their parents now face an anxious wait to learn whether the girls' encouraging first 36 hours will develop into a full recovery. The hospital refused to comment further on the girls' chances of survival, saying only that it was "early days after a very major operation".

"They are both still poorly but stable. They are still at a very critical stage and are being monitored carefully," the spokeswoman said. "We are

BY KAREN EDWARDS

looking forward to a second settled night."

The twins were "unstable" during the operation at the London hospital and needed "external cardiac massage" to restart their hearts. Now they are receiving round-the-clock care from a team of specialist doctors and nurses.

Their father said: "We have been worried through the pregnancy, but during the operation we felt very confident in the surgeons and that everything possible was being done. We are now very anxious - waiting to see how the twins get on is very difficult."

A team of surgeons and anaesthetists carried out the emergency operation after the twins - who were born on Thursday - were airlifted to London from St Michael's Hospital in Bristol by a RAF helicopter on Friday afternoon after it was found that they were suffering from peritonitis.

Chilly touch in theatre of cruelty

THE FINAL scene of Alban Berg's *Wozzeck* is like a mighty inflection in the chronicle of 20th-century music. It would seem to be the very point at which Mahler hands over his hard-won inheritance to Berg. Christoph von Dohnanyi's Philharmonia concert series "Mahler and Vienna: Beginnings and Endings" seemed to begin and end there on Saturday night. It was one of several moments in this expensively cast and painstakingly prepared concert performance of Berg's opera which revealed Dohnanyi's reading for what it was: a fiercely objective but ultimately heartless account of this magnificent score.

The expressionist nightmare, the eternal "Scream" of

FIRST NIGHT

WOZZECK
PHILHARMONIA
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LONDON

Edward Munch's notorious painting, is inside the hapless *Wozzeck*'s head. Berg's orchestra is a lurid canvas of insanity, hallucination, and man's inhumanity to man. Only a solo horn dares to dream.

But perhaps the most remarkable feature of Berg's awesomely complex score is that it is achieved within the disciplines of strict compositional procedures. For method in madness, Dohnanyi is your

man. A fearlessly accomplished Philharmonia Orchestra laid bare the viscera of the score with ruthless clarity.

But there's much more to Berg's (and the playwright Buchner's) theatre of cruelty: An underlying compassion which surfaces only fleetingly during the course of this bad dream, but which sublimates in that great D minor interlude.

That Dohnanyi made so little of the great crescendo leading to its point of release was to me symptomatic of an emotional and theatrical frigidity at the moment where the opposite must be true. Just as the two mighty crescendos following the death of Marie serve as stark and shocking, so must this untimely climax

carry with it the entire opera's heartache. It didn't.

That burden fell to Franz Hawlata's *Wozzeck*, beautifully conveying the dementia which so paradoxically makes this simple man articulate. And to Deborah Polaski's Marie, so alive to the spirit and drama of the text. In Berg's gallery of grotesques, Eric Halfvarson's shaven-headed Doctor looked and sounded like his surname might be Death, while the Captain was, in Graham Clark's incisive performance, the personification of hypertension, the tessitura of the vocal line suggesting his scrawny neck stretched for *Wozzeck*'s razor like a Ralph Steadman caricature. Now there's a thought.

Edward Seckerson

World's largest prefab heads for orbit

THE WORLD'S most ambitious building project begins this week, with the launch of the first of 45 rockets to build an orbiting space station as big as two football fields.

Yet even before the launch, the project to construct the International Space Station (ISS) has run into huge problems, including massive cost overruns and continual arguments between the United States and Russia, even over issues as trivial as the station's name. (The US favoured Freedom; Russia thought that sounded like a snide comment on the Cold War. Presently "ISS" is the compromise.)

More serious though are calculations which suggest that during its planned 20-year life, the ISS stands a real chance of suffering a catastrophe which could kill astronauts - and perhaps leave them whirling lifeless around the Earth forever.

The principal hazards include a rocket explosion on liftoff, and a strike on the huge area of the station either by orbiting "space junk", which includes thousands of tiny metal fragments, including dropped tools from previous space missions, or meteorites.

The threat of being hit is very serious. To put the ISS together, the astronauts will have to carry out 1,000 hours of spacewalks. By comparison, the record length spent outside so far is 30 hours, on the second Hubble Space Telescope repair mission in 1997.

Space junk makes spacewalks - and life on the ISS - risky. A pebble-sized object would carry the kinetic energy

By CHARLES ARTHUR
Technology Editor

of a car travelling faster than 100mph, and a direct hit on any astronaut or on the station could be fatal.

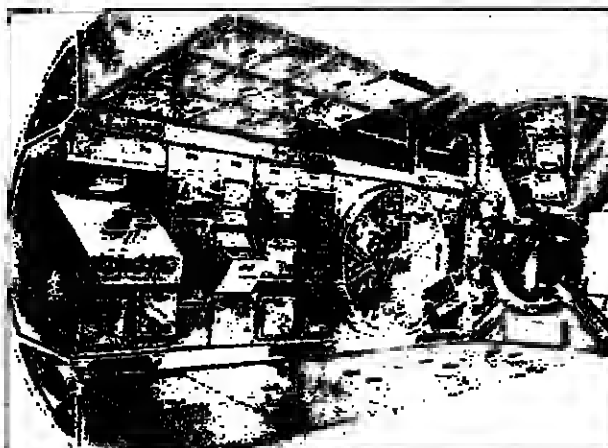
The size of the station, with 4,000 square metres of solar panels, will be a huge target. A Nasa analyst, Eric Christiansen, has calculated there is a 42 per cent chance of one of the ISS's 30 modules being penetrated by an outside object during its 20-year life. What nobody knows is whether it would cause an explosion, or just a slow leak that could be plugged.

Yet Nasa has not completed a formal risk assessment on the project, and last week Julie Swain, a member of Nasa's independent Advisory Council, told New Scientist magazine: "the opportunity for something to go wrong is phenomenal".

She thinks that something - perhaps major - is bound to go wrong by the laws of statistics. "It's dangerous. It will always be dangerous. It ought to be expected that people are going to die," she said.

Thus there will be many crossed fingers amid the celebrations on Friday when a Russian Proton-4 rocket takes off from the remote Kazakhstan desert carrying a cargo module, Zarya, with propulsion, command and control systems for the ISS. A fortnight later the US Space Shuttle Endeavour will take off from the more prestigious Kennedy Space Facility, bearing a cornerstone of the ISS - its Unity connecting module, to which all the US's pieces will connect in future.

The US space agency Nasa



An artist's impression of the interior of ISS, the world's first space station, left, and above a Nasa mock-up of technicians at work on ISS and right, an artist's impression of a space shuttle docking



was upbeat as the launch process moved towards completion. "Unity represents the first new human spacecraft to go to a Kennedy launch pad since the Shuttle launch 17 years ago," said Steve Francois, director of payloads. "The era of the ISS is here."

If so, it's very late. The ISS was first suggested by Ronald Reagan in 1984. First plans were that it would cost \$8bn (£4.8bn), and be finished by

1994. Presently those figures look more like \$50bn - or perhaps \$100bn - with construction finishing in 2003, though it should provide a permanent station for at least three astronauts from July next year.

Once complete, it will offer a crew of seven a choice of five pressurised laboratories with attached external sites for research. It could also be a useful waystation for future exploration of the solar system.

But some scientists remain doubtful it will ever pay its way, because of the associated costs of reaching it every Shuttle launch costs about \$400m. "If Rumpelstiltskin took straw into space and spun it into gold, he'd still lose money," quipped one materials scientist.

Meanwhile, as Russia's economy has slumped, the US has been forced to shoulder more of the burden of designing and paying for the ISS.

Though there are 16 partners in the project (including Britain) - Nasa has had to drive the project.

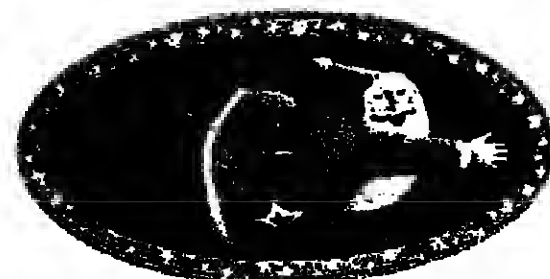
Dan Goldin, the normally upbeat head of Nasa, told Congress last month that the problems with the ISS had forced him to consider resigning. Instead, he demanded \$1.2bn more funding from Congress: "If we can't get the money, maybe we ought just to cancel it," he challenged.

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Article 9

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John Glenn



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British Museum: First lines of 4,000-year-old poem reconstructed from material found in a storeroom

Opening to oldest ever epic found

THE BEGINNING of the world's first truly great work of literature - the 4,000-year-old Mesopotamian Epic of Gilgamesh, the poem on which the story of Noah and the Flood was probably based - has been discovered in a British Museum storeroom.

Most of the opening two stanzas have been lost for the past 2,000 years but research in the museum has recovered vital elements of the first four lines of the epic.

Scholars have been able to reconstruct the first four lines as follows:

"He who saw all, who was the foundation of the land, who knew (everything), was wise in all matters."

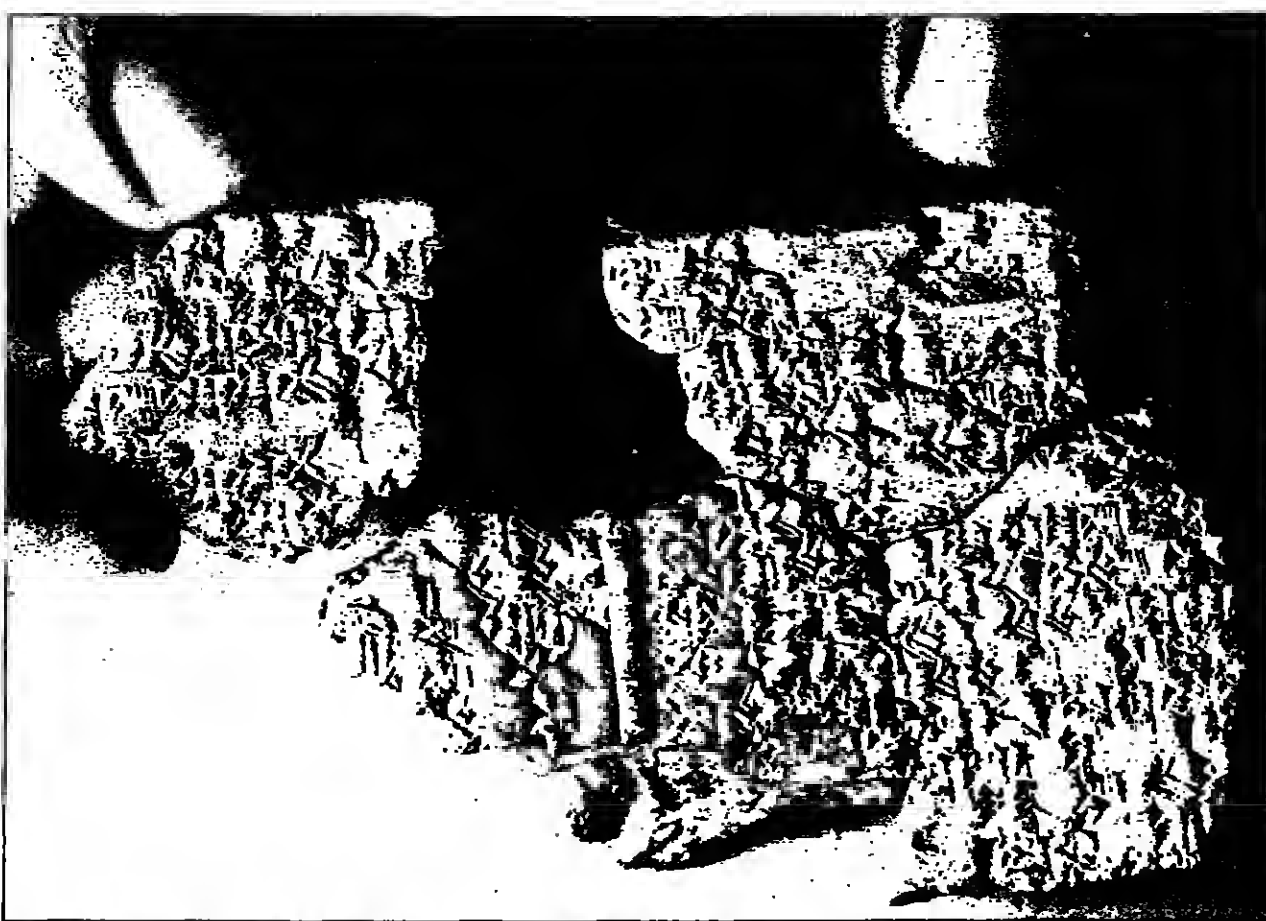
"Gilgamesh, who saw all, who was the foundation of the land, who knew (everything),

BY DAVID KEYS
Archaeology Correspondent

was wise in all matters."

The discovery, made by Theodore Kwasman, a US expert on Mesopotamian language and script, is a key step towards a complete understanding of the 15,000-word work. First written out as a set of clay tablets by at least the 18th century BC, it was re-copied many times over the following two millennia. Hundreds of fragments of various editions of this set of tablets have been identified and fitted together like a giant jigsaw. But almost 20 per cent of the epic is still missing and a further 25 per cent is so fragmentary that it is only partially legible.

Nevertheless, archaeologists are confident that the entire jigsaw will be completed,



The newly identified beginning of the Epic of Gilgamesh being fitted on to the rest of the poem Nicola Kurtz

and that the work - known originally as *Surpassing All Other Kings* and later as *The One Who Saw All*, will once again be available in its entirety. Missing lines are being discovered in museum collections world-wide and in excavations in the Middle East at the rate of several dozen words a year. *The Epic of Gilgamesh* tells

the story of an early 3rd-millennium BC Sumerian (southern Mesopotamian) king who went in search of the secret of everlasting life - a secret held by the survivor of the great flood, the proto-Noah, who had become immortal. The newly identified Gilgamesh "first-lines" fragment is actually from an edition of the

epic copied between 600BC and 100BC. The fragment was initially found in 1878, probably in the ruins of ancient Babylon either by commercial treasure hunters or by the British Museum's agent in Baghdad, Hormuzd Rassam, who 25 years earlier had helped the museum to excavate in what is now northern Iraq. At that stage no

body realised what it was, and it (with many other tablet fragments) was shipped by Rassam to the British Museum, where it was stored as a resource for scholars. The newly identified material will be included in a new translation of *The Epic of Gilgamesh* due to be published in February by Penguin Books in London.

Treasure trove of man's history

IDENTIFICATION of the Gilgamesh fragment is only one of dozens of archaeological discoveries made every year inside the British Museum.

Most people probably think of it as simply a vast collection of display cases filled with antiquities, but nothing could be further from the truth.

Only 1 per cent of the objects are on view. The rest - 7 million objects - are kept in storerooms and constitute the world's largest archaeological research collection.

Every year more than 10,000 scholars come from dozens of countries to carry out vital research work on this vast stored collection. The visiting scholars examine up to 250,000 items, while British Museum staff carry out research into thousands more.

Recent breakthroughs have included:

■ The discovery of the earliest sword blade made of so-called "crucible" extra-hard steel. Dating from the 7th century AD, it was identified using a metallographic microscope in the museum's research laboratory;

■ The discovery that the red enamel used for decorating treasures in Dark Age Britain was made from metallurgical waste products;

■ The revelation that a large fragment of ancient Egyptian manuscript was in fact the

BY DAVID KEYS

missing part of a papyrus in a French museum;

■ The identification of early coin forgeries and an understanding as to how they were forged;

■ And the discovery that Romano-Egyptian portraits were painted after death.

Objects are studied in great detail. Paint is analysed to discover the nature and source of pigments, and wooden items are sampled to find out what type of timber was used in their manufacture and where the timber might have originated from.

Residue stuck to the insides of ancient pots is examined to discover what individual ceramic vessels were used for. DNA from mummified bodies is used to trace family relationships, illuminating previously unknown aspects of history.

And, as in the *Gilgamesh* discovery, thousands of fragments of ancient writing tablets are studied to reconstruct texts last seen thousands of years ago.

As well as scholars from Britain and overseas, the stored collection also attracts members of the public doing their own research projects - everything from the investigation of ancient farming methods to the study of the development of textile technology.

IN BRIEF

'Road rage' extradition hearing

KENNETH NOYE, wanted by British police for questioning over the fatal stabbing of Stephen Cameron, 21, in May 1996 on a slip road off the M25 in Swanley, Kent, is due to appear in court in Spain today for the preliminary hearing of the extradition case against him. Mr Noye, 41, was arrested in Barbate in southern Spain in August. A date for the full extradition case is expected to be set today.

Chelsea coach on sex charge

THE FORMER England football international Graham Rix will appear in a London court next month charged with having sex with a girl under 16 and indecently assaulting her on three occasions, police said yesterday. Rix, 41, a former Arsenal player who won 17 caps, is now assistant manager at Chelsea.

Drugs charges after disco death

A 33-YEAR-OLD man is to appear in court today on charges relating to the supply and possession of drugs after a woman died after being taken ill at a disco on Saturday. She was named as Annette McCallum, 21, of Airdrie.

Cat registered as hairdresser

A LABOUR Euro MP wants to see the compulsory registration and licensing of hairdressers after a constituent was left bald when a perm went wrong. Peter Truscott said the recent registering of a cat, rabbit, and a dog as hairdressers also showed restrictions were needed.

Two share £6m lottery jackpot

TWO TICKET-HOLDERS shared Saturday's £6.1m lottery jackpot, Camelot said. The winning numbers were 7, 11, 12, 17, 23 and 39. The bonus ball was 42. A total of 42 people matched five numbers and the bonus ball to win £45,229.

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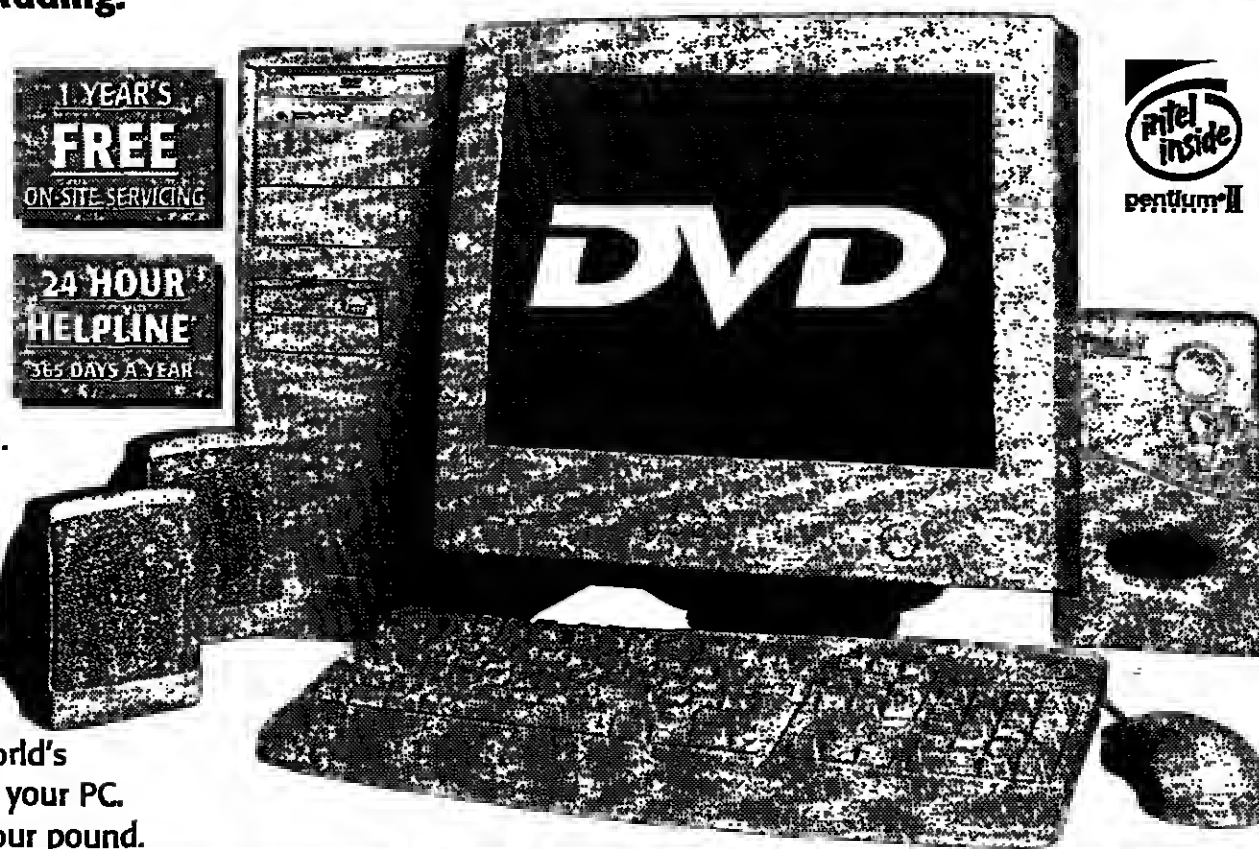
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Malaysia summit hit by protests

PROTESTERS AND indignant foreign leaders piled pressure on the Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad yesterday as he prepared to host a Pacific Rim summit against a backdrop of civil unrest.

Anti-government protesters mounted three demonstrations in the capital to less than 24 hours, highlighting the depth of discontent with Dr Mahathir's rule and his opponents' determination to defy a police ban on public gatherings.

Police fired tear gas and water cannon yesterday to break up a demonstration by about 200 supporters of Malaysia's sacked finance minister, Anwar Ibrahim, calling on Dr Mahathir to resign.

The 21 members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation forum (Apec) range from the United States, Japan and Russia to Vietnam, Peru and Papua New Guinea. Apec's goal is the establishment of free trade throughout the region by 2020.

BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY in Jakarta

The group's star performer, President Bill Clinton, cancelled his attendance over the weekend to deal with the crisis over Iraq, and called back from Kuala Lumpur his Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright.

The Indonesian president, B.J. Habibie, plans to attend, although on Friday Indonesian troops shot dead more than a dozen people in the centre of Jakarta. The following day, mobs destroyed shops and banks and bandits held up cars on the road to the airport. Yesterday, there were persistent rumours that Dr Habibie faces a possible military coup.

Dr Mahathir, the summit's host, is facing a political crisis over the sacking of his former deputy, Mr Anwar, who is standing trial for alleged corruption and sex crimes, charges which are widely suspected of being trumped up.

His treatment by Dr Ma-



Protesters on the streets of Kuala Lumpur yesterday give Apec leaders a clear message to go home

Upali Aturugiri/APF

hathir, and a beating up at the hands of the police, has provoked rage at home and abroad.

Ms Albright met Mr Anwar's wife, Wan Azizah. She also met Malaysia's trade minister, Rafi-

dah Aziz. The pair sparred with each other at a news conference. Ms Albright said that Washington was concerned about Mr Anwar's chances getting a fair trial. Mr Rafidah shot back: "Maybe if I go to the

States, I would like to meet Ken Starr," referring to the special prosecutor investigating President Clinton. "But he is not in prison," Ms Albright snapped. Apec's principal goal is free trade but Dr Mahathir has de-

fied Western economic orthodoxy by introducing currency controls. Having established himself as an Apec undesirable, Dr Mahathir is in no position to do what summit hosts need to do - nudge the participants

into reaching an agreement. But Apec leaders will have a much simpler ambition this week: to get through their meeting without any major diplomatic squabbles, large scale riots or coups d'etat.

Mating cod put navy in danger

BY MARCUS TANNER

HUGE NUMBERS of grunting cod have been blamed by a team of Norwegian scientists for posing an unexpected security risk to the Scandinavian country's military security.

According to a recent analysis that has been produced for the navy, millions of tiny grunting sounds emitted by the cod during the mating season can create a background noise loud enough to blot out sounds of suspicious maritime activity.

The cod make their grunt-like sounds approximately every 80 seconds in order to lure their mates. And the number of fish is vast - Norway's seas are famous for the huge schools during the mating season.

The study by the Norwegian Defence Research Institute said the millions of fish grunts are overloading naval sonar systems and masking sound waves that sonar transmits in order to detect objects underwater. The result is that it is almost impossible to navigate safely under the cold waters of the Norwegian Sea.

The study concluded that naval vessels would be well advised to steer clear of the region when cod spawning is at its height in February and March. The scientists used a spectral analyser to break down the background noise picked up by sonar techniques designed to register enemy submarines.

At this stage, the Norwegians say they have no answer to the problem but to advise their submarines to avoid all known spawning grounds at the appropriate times of year.

"This is the first time we have registered the frequency of sounds from wild cod," researcher Erling Kjellshy is quoted as telling Norway's largest newspaper, *Verdens Gang*. "The noise of cod looking for partners ruins the listening conditions."

Kurds converge on Rome to demand freedom for PKK chief

THOUSANDS of Kurds are converging on Rome to press the government to grant political asylum to Abdullah Ocalan, the leader of the outlawed Kurdish Workers Party, the PKK.

Mr Ocalan was arrested at Rome airport last Thursday after arriving on a flight from Moscow. The Turkish government is demanding his extra-

dition to face charges of murder and terrorist activities. The PKK has waged a 14-year war with Turkey for autonomy in the south-east of the country.

Around 1,500 Kurds, many from northern Europe, have occupied the square in front of the

Celio military hospital, where it was thought Mr Ocalan was being held. They had come from Switzerland, Germany, France, Belgium and even Sweden.

Young men in uniform black leather jackets and jeans and older ones in suits waved the red, yellow and green Kurdish flag and held aloft poster-sized photographs of Mr Ocalan, known as

Apo, or Uncle. Women chanted "Freedom for Apo, freedom for Kurdistan". One of the organisers, Ahmed, of Bonn, said they expected to draw 10,000 Kurds to Rome. "We will stay here until Apo is granted asylum," he said. "The [Italian] government must not bow to the threats of the Turks."

The Turkish Foreign Minis-

ter, Ismail Cem, in Rome yesterday, urged his Italian counterpart, Lamberto Dini, not to side with what he said were terrorists. Relations between the two countries are already strained by a recent decision of the Italian authorities to allow a meeting in Rome of the Kurdish parliament-in-exile.

The hard-left parties and

the Greens want Mr Ocalan to be granted political refugee status and the main party of government, the left-of-centre Democratico della Sinistra, are reluctant to surrender him.

Italy's constitution prohibits repatriation to any country which allows the death penalty, as Turkey does. Germany also has an arrest warrant for

the PKK leader but has not yet presented an extradition request. If it did, it would be hard for Italy to refuse.

The circumstances of Mr Ocalan's arrival are still unclear. He was arrested as soon as he stepped off an aircraft from Russia, where he had been seeking asylum after fleeing his hideout in Syria.

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مكتبة النور

Death Row survivors call for abolition

BY ANDREW GUMBEL
in Los Angeles

"MY NAME is Joseph Burrows," the speaker told his emotional audience. "The state of Illinois sought to kill me for a murder I did not commit. I was put on Death Row in 1989. I was released in 1994. If the state had its way, I'd be dead today."

One by one, Mr Burrows and 27 other former prisoners addressed the National Conference on Wrongful Convictions and the Death Penalty at Chicago's Northwestern University at the weekend.

Each stated how he or she had been put on Death Row, sometimes for 15 or 20 years, before being exonerated and released. Every former prisoner placed a sunflower in a vase. When the ceremony was over, they broke down in tears and offered each other hugs.

The conference was the first formal gathering of former Death Row inmates, and the largest convention on capital punishment since the United States resumed judicial executions 21 years ago.



Former Death Row inmates who were later cleared of their alleged crimes say many more innocent people have been put to their deaths in the US *Michael S. Green/AP*

With more than 1,000 lawyers and civil rights activists in attendance, the conference focused on 75 documented cases of overturned death sentences and examined the possibility that scores more people may have

been executed for crimes they did not commit. The United States has put almost 500 people to death since 1977. Another 3,500 await execution. Many states, such as Texas, have drastically increased the pace of executions.

A report by the human rights group Amnesty International stated: "For more than two decades judges and legislators in the US have struggled with - and failed to resolve - the central paradox of the death penalty: how to impose an

irreversible punishment fairly and accurately, while ensuring that the sentence is carried out without delay.

"There is clear and convincing evidence that this attempt to balance fairness and finality has now been abandoned, sacrificed for the sake of political expediency."

Among the speakers at the conference was Rubin Carter, the former prize-fighter convicted for a triple murder in Paterson, New Jersey, and later the subject of one of Bob

Dylan's most famous protest songs, *Hurricane*. Mr Carter, who was sentenced before the reintroduction of capital punishment, and exonerated after 19 years behind bars, now directs an association in Toronto that fights wrongful

convictions. "There is no separation between being on Death Row or being held unjustly for the rest of your life," he said. "Prison is death."

In its report, Amnesty analysed the reasons for wrongful death sentences: the inadequacy of court-appointed defence lawyers, misconduct by prosecutors seeking a conviction at all costs, an over-reliance on testimony from jail informants who receive favours for their co-operation, and racial bias, particularly in the South.

Amnesty, which is campaigning against human rights abuses in the US, also criticised the superior courts for focusing solely on procedural issues and allowing death sentences to stand even when compelling new evidence came forward in favour of the defendant.

It also highlighted the anguish of being confined in a tiny cell, a few feet away from the execution chamber for years on end, "listening" in the words of former Florida inmate, Shabara Brown, "to that chair being tested twice a day and knowing it was being done in your honour".

Quiet heroes of Honduran relief effort

KLAAS RIEMER, a farmer from the former British colony of Belize, is one of the quiet heroes of the Hurricane Mitch disaster that struck neighbouring Honduras and much of Central America.

Like all Belizeans, Canadian-born Mr Riemer was braced for Mitch, the fourth-strongest hurricane recorded, to hit his adopted country at the end of last month and wipe out his crops. With the help of locally-based British troops and a visiting force of Royal Marines, Belizeans abandoned their coastal homes and battered down the hatches in inland shelters.

When the tempest stopped just off Belize's renowned coral reef, Mr Riemer thanked God but was concerned that someone else was going to get the brunt. He was right. Honduras was devastated.

That was why Mr Riemer was in this northern Honduran town yesterday with a large plane-load of food grown on his farm for his neighbours.

I was standing on the airstrip trying to hitch a ride on a US military cargo aircraft when I saw Mr Riemer unload sacks of food from a DC-4 airliner chartered by an aid group called Operation Belize Mercy.

As a result of rumours that foreign aid was falling into the hands of Honduran businessmen allied with the military, Mr Riemer was taking no chances. He personally supervised the transfer of his homegrown Californian red kidney beans and rice on to a Honduran army lorry.

Then he and a locally-based American Baptist minister, David Harms, escorted their load to Chapagua, a flood-stricken village an hour's drive away. "This way we know it's really getting to those who need it," Pastor Harms said.

"These containers have been here for a week, brim full of food," said Mr Riemer, gesturing to eight container trailers parked by the airstrip, most containing international food aid. "If I go with my own stuff, I know it's going to reach its destination."

They were alluding to reports that some of the food may be being diverted to profiteering businessmen.

While an estimated 9,000lbs of basic foods had arrived here over the five days preceding my visit, many surrounding vil-

BY PAUL DAVISON
in Trujillo, Honduras

lagers reported that they had received none.

After Mr Riemer and the pastor left with their load, an evening meeting of the local crisis committee in a motel next to the airstrip offered some interesting revelations. Taking part were the local military chief, Colonel Jose Geronimo Barahona, Trujillo's Bishop, Virgilio Lopez, the provincial governor and other dignitaries.

They came to the conclusion that a local American businessman, a mahogany furniture dealer, was their immediate problem. They said he was behind an Internet campaign which alleged that foreign food aid was being diverted with military collusion. His motivation? He had tried to buy up some local land but had been thwarted by squatters and was now wreaking his revenge. The amiable-looking Col Barahona told visiting foreign reporters not to fall for "propaganda".

"Superspacio [superslow]," replied Priscillo Ortiz, a resident of the isolated village of La Barra de Aguan, when asked how the aid distribution was working. With no help from the authorities or the military, she organised a trip to her village carrying food and clothes first by road in a small van, then by lorry before transferring to canoes and then volunteers' shoulders on a three-hour odyssey that included the risk of alligator attack.

Some Trujillo residents I spoke to suggested La Barra had been ignored because its residents were black, or perhaps because the fishing village was reputed to be a major transit point for Colombian cocaine. In La Barra, where scores of homes were swept from their foundations into the Atlantic, residents wandered around, tending their surviving cows or pigs and sleeping in the homes of luckier neighbours.

With the village and its former roads now a string of islands in an extension of the ocean, farmers went to and fro in simple wooden canoes carved from single tree trunks - some of them leading their struggling, swimming cows behind them across the light brown floodwaters.



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BUSINESS

Lloyds rebuffed by French in Lyonnais sell-off talks

BRIEFING

Allied to sell Carpetland for £14m

ALLIED CARPETS, the beleaguered warehouse group, is today expected to announce the sale of Carpetland, its poorest-performing subsidiary, to rival Carpetright for £14m. Allied put itself up for sale in September and has held a number of meetings with potential buyers.

The Carpetland deal is not expected to run into monopoly concerns. The rest of Allied's operations look set to continue under the existing management following the reported collapse of talks with entrepreneur Luke Johnson and investment group Alchemy Partners.

Sterling will be volatile after euro



THE INTRODUCTION of the euro next year could lead to large swings in the value of the pound, says a study by the London Business School (LBS) released yesterday. The study found that large economies relatively closed to trade are less concerned about exchange-rate shifts than smaller, more open economies. As a result the euro will be more volatile

than the German mark and the UK will have to cope with larger movements in the sterling/euro rate until the Government makes a firmer commitment to join the euro.

Superstores face tougher times

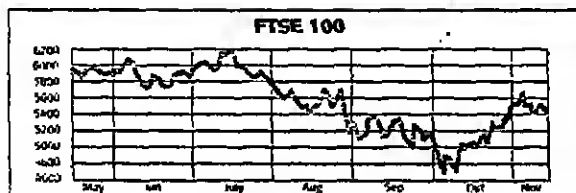
OUT-OF-TOWN superstores are no longer a novelty and retailers will have to improve basic customer service, according to research published today. Retail analysts Verdict warn that the days of relatively easy growth from new store openings are over, but it predicts that superstore sales will still grow by 39 per cent between now and 2003, accounting for 43 per cent of all retail sales growth.

Verdict forecasts that 880 new superstores will open by 2003, almost half in the leisure, clothing and variety category; the DIY and grocery sectors are near-saturated.

UK firms not fazed by Asia slump

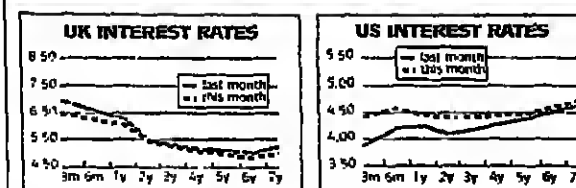
THE MAJORITY of UK companies plan to keep investing at current or higher levels in Asia, shows a survey published today by the Confederation of British Industry and Australian telecoms group Telstra. "Over the next five years UK firms expect to invest more in Asia-Pacific than in Western Europe or the US," said Telstra Europe chief executive, Steve Demetrian.

STOCK MARKETS



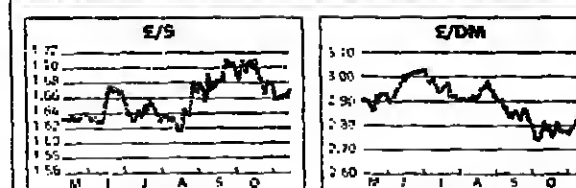
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FTSE 350	2603.60	+21.60	+0.82	2969.1	2210.4	1.206
FTSE All Share	2518.44	+19.78	+0.78	2886.52	2143.53	1.323
FTSE SmallCap	2067.10	+0.40	+0.02	2753.3	1834.4	3.584
FTSE FTSE100	1136.40	+2.20	+0.19	1512.1	1048.2	3.425
FTSE AIM	820.40	+2.10	+0.26	1145.0	761.3	1.126
FTSE EPOC 100	899.38					
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Hang Seng	9997.99	+41.76	+0.41	11926.16	6544.79	4.002
Dax	4638.65	+196.57	+4.27	6217.83	3672.27	1.91

INTEREST RATES



Index	3 month	6 month	1 year	2 year	3 year	4 year	5 year	7 year	10 year
UK	6.95	-0.76	6.45	-1.49	4.95	-1.75	4.60	-2.00	-
US	5.40	-0.47	5.06	-0.97	4.81	-1.11	5.25	-	-
Japan	0.40	-0.05	0.46	-0.05	0.84	-1.01	1.38	-1.03	-
Germany	3.64	-0.13	3.55	-0.50	4.20	-1.41	5.18	-1.04	-

CURRENCIES



Index	3 month	6 month	1 year	2 year	3 year	4 year	5 year	7 year	10 year
Dollar	1.6640	+0.37c	1.6969						
Mark	2.9600	+2.71p	2.5229						
Yen	204.38	+46.77	213.16						
£ index	101.30	+1.20	103.50						

Index	3 month	6 month	1 year	2 year	3 year	4 year	5 year	7 year	10 year
Brent Oil (\$)	11.55	0.26	19.75						
Gold (\$)	295.25	2.20	208.00						
Silver (\$)	5.13	0.09	5.06						

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TOURIST RATES

Country	Rate	Country	Rate
Australia (\$)	2.5077	Mexico (nuevo peso)	15.03
Austria (schillings)	19.08	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0592
Belgium (francs)	56.08	New Zealand (\$)	2.9668
Canada (\$)	2.4946	Norway (krone)	12.11
Cyprus (pounds)	0.7927	Portugal (escudos)	276.96
Denmark (krone)	10.39	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.0594
Finland (markka)	8.3538	Singapore (\$)	2.6196
France (francs)	9.1085	Spain (pesetas)	230.37
Germany (mark)	2.7268	South Africa (rand)	9.1893
Greece (drachma)	457.88	Sweden (krone)	13.17
Hong Kong (\$)	12.42	Switzerland (francs)	2.2445
Ireland (pounds)	1.0998	Thailand (bahts)	56.16
India (rupees)	69.21	Turkey (liras)	468850
Israel (shekels)	6.6146	USA (\$)	1.6160
Italy (lira)	2701		
Japan (yen)	198.71		
Malaysia (ringgits)	6.0590		
Malta (lira)	6.6073		

LLOYDS TSB, the high street banking giant, has held top-level discussions with the French government about participating in the £4bn privatisation of the bank Credit Lyonnais.

Banking sources say the discussions, which took place within the last six weeks, provide the strongest signal yet that Lloyds is actively looking abroad for deals. Until now it has cultivated a reputation for being the most UK-focused of the big four British banks.

However, the Lloyds chairman Sir Brian Pitman walked

BY ANDREW GARFIELD
Financial Editor

away from the talks over Credit Lyonnais after being told his demands for full management control were unacceptable to the French.

The Lyonnais approach is understood to have come from the French whose Finance Minister, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, is looking to create a core group of three large shareholders with around 10 per cent each prior to floating all but 10 per cent of the bank on the French

stock market next year. However, bankers say the French were so outraged by Sir Brian's attitude that they have struck the British off their list of potential investors altogether.

Barclays made a takeover approach to the French about Credit Lyonnais some three years ago but was also rebuffed on much the same grounds. "They were very serious about Lyonnais," said one City source. "Pitman believes that Lloyds' success was being in at the start of the consolidation of the UK banking sector. Now

with the euro coming, he is trying to identify other markets where consolidation will be replicated."

Lyonais would have fitted one of Sir Brian's key acquisition criteria, in that the bank, despite the bad publicity surrounding its spectacular collapse five years ago, is the leading retail and commercial bank in Europe's second largest economy. There is also considerable fat to be trimmed, although France's restrictive labour laws remain a problem. Lloyds is now understood to

be looking seriously at other European targets, including rival French banks Société Générale and Banque Nationale de Paris, as well as Commerzbank and BHF in Germany.

One banker said yesterday: "They are gearing up to do something. Internally staff have been primed to expect an international deal."

He added: "What they want to do is find a country where they can acquire two banks and then put them together in much the same way that they did

here, first with Cheltenham & Gloucester and then with TSB."

Lloyds-TSB said last night that both Sir Brian and the chief executive Peter Ellwood had been open in the past about the bank's interest in pulling off a sizeable acquisition, and that international deals were definitely on the agenda. "They are looking both inside the UK and outside the UK."

Lloyds has also looked recently at National Australia Bank, which would give them Yorkshire and Clydesdale banks in the UK.

Fancy a drink down at the juice café?

FIRST IT was coffee houses. Then came sushi bars. Now it is juice cafés. In a bid to cash in on the health craze, a chain of more than 40 juice cafés is being planned over the next three years.

They will sell a range of fruit and vegetable juices devised by Phil Howard, head chef at London's latest ultra-fashionable restaurant, The Square.

Jus Café, the company behind the concept, is raising £1.25m through a private placing arranged by Arthur Andersen, and hopes to open five outlets in London within the next 12 months.

Juice cafés have become a familiar sight in the US, Canada and Australia, and Mr Howard believes they can catch on in Britain too. "You are what you eat and people are becoming more aware of that," he says.

"We have advanced the traditional approach to juice blends to a range that suits the modern palate, with combinations of flavours that work."

Other backers of Jus Café include the corporate financier James Longley, who will act as chief financial officer, Dermot Verscholye, a former partner in the property group Hamptons International, and another top chef, Adam Byatt. The managing director is Julian Dyer.

If the Jus Café concept succeeds, then the plan is to float the business in 18 months' time.



Phil Howard (left) and Julian Dyer: Planning chain of more than 40 juice cafés

Rearguard action to save Oates

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

A REARGUARD action is being mounted to defend Keith Oates, the deputy chairman of Marks & Spencer, amid reports that he will be ousted this week following the boardroom rift caused by his bid to take over as chief executive.

It was being said over the weekend that M&S's non-executive directors, led by Sir Martin Jacobson, were ready to order Mr Oates's immediate departure for splitting the retail giant down the middle by publicly lobbying to succeed Sir Richard Greenbury when he divides his roles as chairman and chief executive.

Sir Richard, who was forced to cut short a holiday to India last week to fly back and tackle the succession crisis, favours giving the chief executive's job to Peter Salisbury, who, along with Mr Oates, is one of four joint managing directors of M&S.

But sources close to Mr Oates insisted yesterday that he still had support on the board and, moreover, had not been running a one-man campaign to take over the top job against the wishes of Sir Richard.

"Keith's chances of survival this week are considerably better than 50:50. He has quite a few supporters inside and outside the executive ranks, nor does he seem to be under any pressure to fall on his sword," said a source close to the company. "There was a widely held perception that he was running his own lobbying campaign, but that does not appear to be

true and the non-executives seem inclined to accept that. He seems to have been unjustly tarred with the disloyalty brush."

It was said that, far from promoting his own candidature, supporters of Mr Oates within M&S spoke out in his favour after being "horrified" at the prospect of the Greenbury-Salisbury ticket.

The company is under intense pressure to clear the air with a public statement this week, perhaps as soon as today. Mr Oates is said to have more backing from other executive directors on the board than Mr Salisbury. The other internal candidate for the job of chief executive is Chris Littimoden, who runs M&S's American operations and is credited with having turned its Brooks Brothers subsidiary around.

It is thought that if he were to miss out on the top job, Mr Littimoden and another of the joint managing directors, Lord Stone of Blackheath, would line up behind Mr Oates.

However, given the highly public and damaging nature of the schism within M&S, it is not clear that Mr Oates will stay, even if he is absolved of blame for fomenting the schism.

"I think he will stay until a decision is made, and if he doesn't get the chairmanship or chief executive's job he will decide to go himself," said one observer.

Rhône/Hoechst ScottishPower in £4bn US talks

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

SCOTTISHPower is in talks to buy the US electric utility PacifiCorp in a £4bn deal, having previously failed twice to break into the American power market.

The talks are at an exploratory stage and could yet break down because of regulatory hurdles. But sources close to the two companies said that PacifiCorp was ScottishPower's preferred US partner.

ScottishPower, which is valued at £7.6bn, has never made any secret of its US ambitions. In the past it has con-

templated a takeover of both Florida Progress and the Ohio-based utility Cinergy, which owns a half stake in Midlands Electricity.

PacifiCorp is seen as vulnerable to a bid, having parted company earlier this year with its chief executive, Fred Buckman, following the failure of the group's bid for Energy Group.

However, any bid would be fraught with complications. PacifiCorp, based in Portland, Oregon, operates in five differ-

ent states and any takeover would have to be approved in each one.

A spokesman for ScottishPower refused to confirm that it was in talks with PacifiCorp. He added that whether ScottishPower took over or merged with an American utility, it was important that it had management control.

PowerGen is also still looking for a US acquisition, having abandoned plans to forge a "merger of equals" with the Texas-based utility Houston Industries. The merger fell

apart because the two sides could not agree on valuation and who would run the combined group.

Ian Robinson, chief executive of ScottishPower, would run the combined group, although there would also be a role for Keith McKinnon, PacifiCorp's chairman, who took over temporarily following Mr Buckman's departure in September.

He left after PacifiCorp was beaten in the long-running bid battle for Energy Group, owner of Eastern Electricity, by Texas Utilities.

Read and feed at Waterstone's

BY NIGEL COPE
Associate City Editor

WATERSTONE'S is considering including an upmarket, Terence Conran-style restaurant in its new flagship bookshop on the site of the former Simpson's on London's Piccadilly.

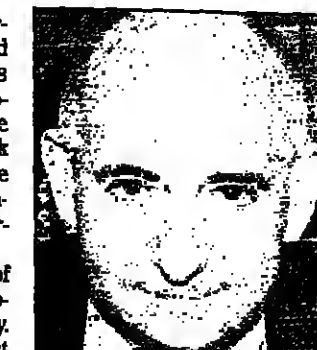
The book retailer, now part of HMV Media Group and chaired by founder Tim Waterstone, is keen to attract strong evening trade to the store. It feels the West End location, close to London's theatre land, would suit a modern, chic eatery. The com-

pany is likely to link up with an established restaurant group to operate the location, though no talks have yet taken place.

Waterstone's is expected to exchange contracts on the Simpson's store this week. The company is holding a "brainstorming session" with its creative advisors today to develop ideas on other innovations that could be included. An art house cinema was

thought to be under consideration but that is now considered unlikely. However, Waterstone's is keen to include other innovations in addition to the more common features of book superstores such as a coffee shop, lounge areas and computer terminals offering Internet access.

The move is part of a wave of superstore bookshop development across the country. Waterstone's opened its first superstore in Glasgow a year ago and is planning several more.



Tim Waterstone: Keen to attract evening trade

The cussing computer

Warning: this educational software may spew a barrage of obscenities at your children. By Iain Aitch

One can only imagine the rude words that must have gone through the minds of the executives at Panasonic Interactive Media in the US, upon discovering that their latest piece of educational software was swearing like a navy at the children it was supposed to be teaching to write.

Panasonic's Secret Writer's Society aims to help seven- to nine-year-olds with their writing by using a voice simulation to read back the compositions they have written. The problem occurs when the child writes a short passage and then impatiently double-clicks while waiting for the message to be read back. They are then treated to a barrage of obscen-

ities from the filter that has been put into the program to stop children typing in bad words just for the fun of having them read back to them.

Panasonic became aware of the problem after receiving a write-up on Superkids, a specialist website which reviews educational software. Superkids urged parents not to buy the program, warning them that it "may shout obscenities at your child". They liked the "cute songs and nice animation"; they did not like the fact that it called their reviewer an "asshole". The staff at Superkids contacted Panasonic, which duly posted a warning on their Secret Writer's Society website and offered free replacements to those parents who were subjected to the profanity.

Panasonic had put the problem

down to a bug in the bad language filter and must have been tempted to reel off a string of cuss words themselves when it was announced last week that the swearing was the work of a rogue programmer. The programmer, who wishes to remain anonymous, claims that his action was a wake-up call to parents who are happy to let a machine take charge of their children's education.

"No program can replace the family," he explains. "But people have this awe of technology. They think it can do better than they can. I wanted to wake parents up to reality - here's what happens if you hand your responsibility to some machine."

The programmer was rewarded for this action with \$1,000 from Rmark, a group that funds sabotage

and creative crimes against corporations. Rmark has also previously funded a similar piece of subversive programming, in which homo-erotic scenes were inserted into the Maxis game SimCopter. The game was recalled and the programmer sacked after scenes with semi-clad, kissing men were discovered.

Ray Thomas, a spokesman for Rmark, says that they agreed to fund the programmer as his actions helped to "raise consciousness about corporate abuse". On the question of exposing children to bad language Thomas says: "We at Rmark have mixed feelings about this, but this meets our bottom-line criterion of being an anti-corporate critique or attack, and not causing physical injury."

Panasonic maintains that the

swearing was caused by a bug, which it has now fixed. "Our producer himself put in a buffer, and we tested it, but evidently we didn't test it well enough," says Elizabeth Olson, Panasonic's communications manager. "To our knowledge there is no truth to this claim. [Rmark] seem to be claiming responsibility for something they didn't have anything to do with."

Thomas is not surprised by Panasonic's reaction. He says the company is unlikely to acknowledge this sort of action "because it's much more disturbing to customers and, perhaps especially, shareholders, if it's not a random, relatively controllable thing like a bug, but rather the product of malice. It could be that they really do think it's a bug."

Software developers may well

need to be extra vigilant as Rmark steps up its campaigns of infiltration and subversion, with the lure of cash incentives for those with the wherewithal to carry out specific tasks. Rmark is currently offering \$400 to anyone who can substitute the pictures of the Spice Girls in Viewmaster slides with naked photographs of now-departed Ginger Spice, Geri Halliwell. In both cases the goods must actually make it to the shops for maximum embarrassment to the companies targeted.

The most worrying thing about this case for companies is that the "hacker" is no longer an anonymous geek at the end of a phone line. They are now in the workplace, where it is far easier for them to throw a spanner in the works.

HELPLINE

DANIEL ROBINSON

I WORK with Windows 3.11 and do all my word processing with Works for Windows 3. I have no problem converting files to other formats and sending them as attachments to e-mail, but when I receive attachments in Word or WordPerfect I cannot read them. If I do get them in the screen, I am confronted with gibberish.

I suspect that this version of Works for Windows simply has out-of-date file import filters. Every version of Microsoft Word saves files with a .DOC extension, even though the file format has changed several times since that version was released. You can either upgrade Works for Windows, or make sure that people send you documents in a file format it understands - something like Word for Windows 2.0 or WordPerfect 5.1.

IS IT possible for multiple users to have access to one Microsoft Outlook account on Windows NT, so that the Outlook is not for an individual on the network but rather a common identity that any user has access to?

No, Outlook is only a single-user application. But it can be used as a front-end client to Microsoft's Exchange Server, which would run on your NT server and function as the central point for all your e-mail. Each user would still have to have their own user name and password, but Exchange allows for public folders which can contain shared information.

ON THE Apple Mac, it is very easy to copy any image on to a file icon, but I have been unable to find out how to do this in Windows 95. I would like to add an image to some of my HTML file icons. Can you help?

Windows 95 can have any image for file icons, but there is no built-in way to translate the contents of an image file into its own "thumbnail" icon. There is an option in Windows 95 for this, but Windows 95 users are out of luck, unless you want to buy a third-party program such as Visioneer's Visual Explorer document manager.

Daniel Robinson is technical editor of PC Direct magazine. Send questions to Helpline, Network, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 3DL or e-mail to network@independent.co.uk with Helpline in the subject field.

MY TECHNOLOGY: PADDY ASHDOWN

Want a politician's ear? E-mail him

I use my e-mail three or four times a day, as there are about 500 to 600 people in the Lib Dems on e-mail, as well as most of our MPs. We have two e-mail numbers; one through which staff can contact me, and another for the general public to make use of.

I do a lot of communication with key people, and certainly with people in my office, using e-mail. My secretary finds it easier to work with and I am probably easier to work with this way as well. For instance, when I am away we send documents backwards and forwards.

I began to use e-mail 10 years ago when it was in its infancy and we ran my leadership campaign on e-mail. And recently we set up the Liberal Democrat conference system.

I have always believed politics is about communication, and e-mail is an additional means to communicate. I would find it virtually impossible to meet the demands and commitments of my role as an MP without e-mail. I'd probably have to sleep less! I can use it anywhere at any time, and it's a much more efficient means of communication than the telephone.

And - because members of the Liberal Democrats have access to a common conferencing system - it enables me to participate in party-wide discussions, revise speeches or draft letters - whether I'm in Aberdeen or Albania.

I can attach my mobile phone and communicate with staff and colleagues via e-mail from a bus or train as easily as from my office. I use a palmtop (an HP200LX), which travels with me everywhere I go, carrying it in my pocket, and it's used on a daily basis.



Paddy Ashdown is no stranger to technology - he's been using e-mail for 10 years

Iain Newton

"It's a fabulous machine; the disadvantage is it's MS-DOS, not Windows-capable. I was brought up on MS-DOS, however, and I prefer using it anyway."

"It carries my e-mail, my fax machine, and it has all my personal databases; spreadsheet programmes; my election-fighting programme; an election package which lets me put in the opinion polls and get a read-out; a French translator; and all the maps of Britain and France."

"It's an absolutely magnificent machine, and I couldn't do without it. I also have a Compaq laptop which enables me to access the Internet. And a pager. So I am pretty well contactable anywhere."

Certainly, the Liberal Democrats were the first political party to really use this technology. And the Liberal Democrats were the first to use such technology in a general election. I acted as a consultant to the initial election program which enables the details of the electoral roll to be placed online.

Personally, I have had a fascination with technology since getting my first computer back in 1980. These days, computers play a vital role in every field of working life.

"I have been saying for more than a decade that technology will change literally everything about our lives - technology will change the way that we run our work; technology will change the way that we do business; and technology will change all the inter-relationships of our society."

INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

Paddy Ashdown's e-mail address is: paddyashdown@iciz

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WEBSITES

BILL PANNIFER

HRH goes http, photos inc

The Prince of Wales
<http://www.princeofwales.gov.uk/>

A day after launch, the Prince of Wales's new site had accumulated 1.75 million hits. Linked to, but independent of the

mothership (<http://www.royal.gov.uk/>), the new online presence is meant as a platform for direct communication with the public. The voluminous, 354-page production includes a biography, picture gallery and

continuously updated details of HRH's activities, while the design, from the Press Association's new media division, is gimmick-free and efficient, rather than palatial. The most useful aspect may be the fully indexed database of the Prince's speeches and articles. An Online Forum solicits visitors' views: selected e-mails are posted at the site, though, of course, "it will not be possible to respond individually".

The China Society for Human Rights Studies
<http://www.humanrights-china.org>

A bracingly different perspective, or just rhetorical hot air? Plenty of both in this intriguing Chinese account, official in all but name, of its human rights record. Less a website than a filing



Pay a right royal visit to the Prince of Wales's site

cabinet, these pages tend to emphasise "subsistence" and "state sovereignty" as human rights above all others, along with the expected counter-critique of the USA's own failings. Some of the arguments are persuasive, and even aspects of the party line on Tibet, criticising those who want the country to remain a "museum culture" for tourist purposes, might seem seductive - were it not for the reality on the ground. For a critical view on the same subject, try Human Rights in China, <http://www.humanrights-china.org>.

Heinz@Home
<http://www.heinz.co.uk>

A canned history of Britain since 1888 is among the goodies on show at this technically ambitious,

multi-layer site for Heinz in the UK. The closing years of Queen Victoria are evoked by Mr Heinz's first sale at Fortnum and Masons while on a trip from the US, and his Zelig-like spirit hovers over key events of the 20th century. Lots of nutritional advice, too, and an online ordering service, Heinz Direct, starts next month, but a "Baby Hamper" (soft food and Farley's Rusk) can already be purchased online for £29.99 and delivered to, say, Afghanistan, for an additional £75.

Reality Check
<http://www.realitycheck.co>

This newly-launched forum is a rather self-conscious

are required to stay with the conversation for at least four weeks, and the exchanges take place in small, manageable, and it is hoped, friendly groups. It is subject-specific and free of charge. Visitors are allowed to lurk and "listen", but not to contribute until they sign up. The non-profit group behind the site aims to enable risk-taking debate rather than what it calls "drive-by postings" - quite a challenge when the first topic is the Clinton scandal.

Welcome to the New and Improved Amazing CowCam!

<http://www.acowcam.com/>

"TuCows" is the name of a famously useful software download site. But this page, promoting a rural US access provider, really is just two cows, standing around in a muddy field. A couple of Jerseys - as in New Jersey - here patrol their paddock beneath the all-seeing Web camera. Africanist this is not, yet despite the lack of drama, Hamburger and Cheeseburger ("no sense having cute names when you plan on eating 'em") claim to have generated some 450,000 hits.

Send interesting, quirky or, at a pinch, cool web site recommendations to websites@dircom.co.uk

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SPORT

Badminton: Steve Baddeley must develop a fresh image for the sport if England is to challenge the world's best

The art of shuttlecock diplomacy

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

THINK BADMINTON. And what do you think of? A game played in a village hall, tip-tap, tip-tap? Or do you perhaps recall the recent occasions when the game has earned coverage in the popular press – Jo Muggeridge pouring a can of Coke over the head of her national coach after being left out of the England squad? Or, earlier this month, the impromptu cricket game played with brooms and cleaning equipment in a toilet at the Dutch Open by two lively-and-emotional English players who have subsequently been suspended? Somewhere in the middle is the kind of image with which the Badminton Association of England would prefer the sport to be associated – 11 medals won at last September's Commonwealth Games, with three golden ones going to doubles specialist Jo Goode.

Steve Baddeley, over whose head that can of Coke was notoriously tipped, would rather the controversial incidents had not occurred. But the man who has filled the role as the Association's chief executive for the last two years is happy to acknowledge that the adverse publicity was not all bad. At least it got the game noticed.

Badminton is a hugely popular domestic sport, played by an estimated 5 million people in England, of whom 55,000 are affiliated with the national association.

But paradoxically this widespread appeal hampers the game in its efforts to promote itself at elite level. The popular image still tends to be one of a soft pit-a-pat affair played by those no longer hale or hearty enough to hit a ball. As he seeks to raise the nation's game at world level, Baddeley has his work cut out.

Now 37, he was one of the players who brought his country notable success during an era which began with the women's doubles victory achieved by Nora Perry and Jane Webster at the 1980 world championships – England's only world title to date.

Commonwealth champion in 1986, and European champion four years later, he established a position in the world rankings that was both respectable and – in terms of ensuring his availability to commentate on the later stages of competition for the broadcasting television station – reliable.

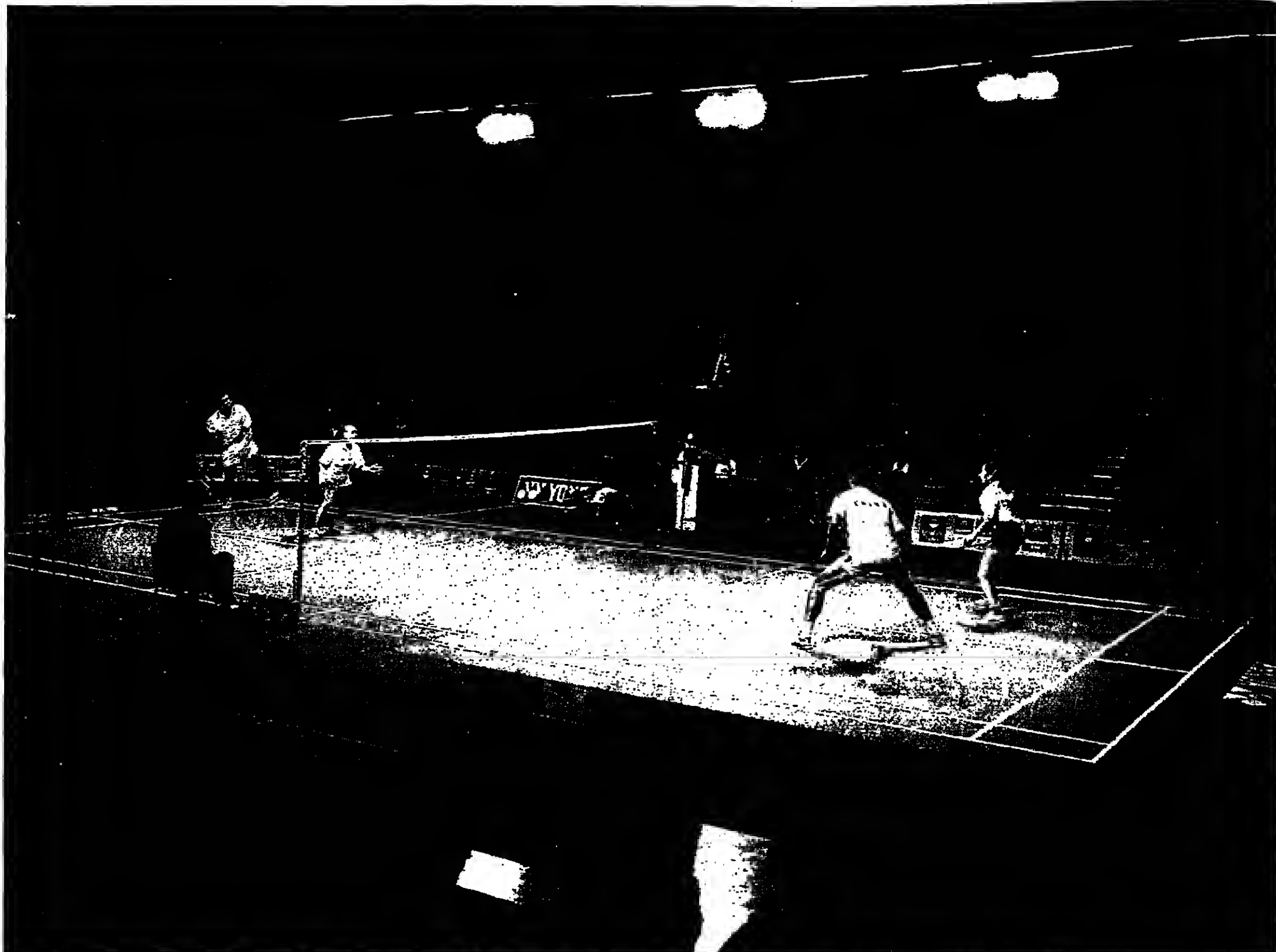
"I was perfect for TV," he said with a grin. "I was guaranteed to be at all the big events, and I was almost always out before the semi-finals." Baddeley's position at or around No 6 in the world corresponds to that occupied by England now. His ambition of edging them further up the order is, clearly, a long-term one.

The upwardly mobile aspirations were set clearly in context at the Stevenage Arts and Leisure Centre on Saturday night as a youthful Chinese team concluded their week-long series of internationals with a clean sweep to finish 5-1 winners.

Almost every one of the visiting players who had whistle-stopped their way by bus from Gateshead to Grantham to Portsmouth to St Austell to Weston-super-Mare on the five previous days was under 20. China's Olympic prospects, it was reasonable to conclude, were looking extremely healthy.

The tourists' team leader, Ren Chunhui, an amiable court-side presence, confirmed the prognosis. "Yes," he said. "We prepare for the Olympics step-by-step, and these players will be ready for the 2004 Games." 2004. Not the next Games, in 2000, then? He considered the group of youngsters who sat watching the action and shouting out the occasional encouragement to their colleagues on court, appearing to scan every face. "I don't think so," he said with a smile. "Too young."

Later in the evening, Goode, who played the women's doubles with 21-year-old Gail Emms in the absence of her regular partner, Donna Kellogg, emphasised the demanding nature



The scene at Stevenage Arts and Leisure Centre on Saturday night, when England's badminton team lost to the Chinese who completed a comfortable 5-1 series victory

Neville Elder

ture of England's current ambitions. "We always have a few good players around, but it is going to be a long term project before we can compete on level terms with the top nations." Nodding towards the visiting group, she added: "They've just got so many to choose from." The tour of England, completed annually since 1993, gives China's up-and-coming players the opportunity to increase their international experience before graduating to the

when one considers that not one English player reached the last eight at last year's world championships. But at least the money is going in the right direction.

Baddeley's annual budget when he took up his current position was £100,000. Last year, thanks to the Lottery, it was just under £1m. And another £4.2m of Lottery funds have been allocated to transform the training centre at the Association's home base in Milton Keynes into a state-of-the-art, eight-court facility.

It will be a good start. But in China, where badminton stands just behind football and basketball in terms of national popularity, a power base is already in existence which England will never be likely to match. Six regional centres were established as far back as 1963. Now, each of the 22 Chinese provinces has a centre – each one of which is larger than the proposed project in Milton Keynes.

For all that, the presence of Goode, and other high-achievers such as the reigning European champions in the men's doubles, Simon Archer and Chris Hunt, offer high hopes for the immediate future.

"At school, any boys who played badminton were seen as wets," Goode recalled. "That is the image we have to change." Baddeley has already got wet in service of his sport. Coke doesn't do a lot for suits – but at least the Association paid for his to be cleaned.

By 2005, the aim is to win a medal in every discipline at the world championships. A tall order, especially

when one considers that not one English player reached the last eight at last year's world championships.

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At the sharp end: England's Anthony Clark and Gail Emms concentrate on taking the game to the Chinese

Neville Elder



Godfather of rugby league, man of mystery

The Memoirs and Sporting Life of Tom Mitchell
By Tom Mitchell
(Echamtime Inc, hardback, £16)

HOW is it possible to resist a book with a chapter entitled "Kruschev and Rugby League"?

Tom Mitchell, who died earlier this year, not long after completing his autobiography, would be the only man who could bring the two things together, along with musings on sludge, watercress and Worthington Town, without it all reading like an elaborate spoof.

This, as you will have gathered

BOOK OF THE WEEK

ered by now, is something of a mixed bag, but then Mitchell was an extraordinary man with an extraordinary range of activities and interests.

He was best known in rugby league circles as the driving force behind Worthington, the Great Britain manager on the successful and legendary 1958 tour to Australia and, latterly, as the elder statesman – even "The Godfather" – of the game.

But he was also a working farmer, mile-runner and

mountain-climber, a qualified chemist and a much-travelled government operative whose journeys abroad, including the one on which he and Nikita got down to business, were surrounded by a certain air of mystery.

There are those who believe that he was, in essence, a spy and they will find nothing here to dissuade them from that opinion.

What is certain is that his contribution to the game he loved was immense and that is duly reflected here, especially in his accounts of the early days of a new club at Worthington and the most detailed

description yet of that momentous 1968 tour.

He is particularly good on the cloak-and-dagger business of signing players from rugby union. He might or might not have been engaged in espionage in Russia and points east, but he certainly was when he ventured into South Wales or the Scottish Borders.

Quite how such a distinctive figure, with his luxuriant beard and extravagant hats, expected to avoid being recognised is not clear. In fact, you suspect that was all part of the fun.

This is not so much a life-story in the conventional sense as a trawl through a remark-

able man's memories and mementoes. At times, it seems to be in no particular order or priority, although it has its own internal logic. There might be more here about sludge than the average rugby league supporter feels he needs to know, but it is all part of the overall picture.

Apart from Kruschev, Mitchell meets up with Picasso, King Farouk and Burgess, Philby and McLean – not a Worthington front row, but the notorious spies.

He is at his warmest and most vivid, however, recalling the players he signed and celebrating the qualities of men

like Gus Risman, Brian Edgar and the tragically crippled John Burke.

You could find a useful side as well from "The Ones Who Got Away", players with whom Mitchell met and negotiated – all incognito, of course – like Barry John, David Duckham and Andy Irvine.

It comes as a surprise, in fact, that a man often regarded as a patron saint of rugby league kept such a big foot in the other camp. To him, a good rugby player was a good rugby player and, reading between the lines, Kruschev seemed to think the same.

Dave Hadfield

THIS WEEK'S TOP TEN SPORTS BOOKS

- 1 My Autobiography, Harry Redknapp with Derek McGovern (Collins Willow, hardback, £18.99).
 - 2 The Carling Ultimate Football Guide 1999 – edited by Mike Williams (Sky Blue publications, paperback, £14.95).
 - 3 Tennent's Lager Scottish Football Review 1998-99 (Programme Publications, paperback, £6.95).
 - 4 Benson and Hedges Cricket Year – edited David Lemon (Bloomsbury, hardback, £20.00).
 - 5 T D – Terrell Davis with Adam Scheffer (Harper Collins, hardback, £19.95).
 - 6 Rothmans Book of Football Records, Jack Rollin (Headline, hardback, £25.00).
 - 7 Wembley The Greatest Stage – Tom Watt and Kevin Palmer (Simon & Schuster, hardback, £20.00).
 - 8 Shark Among Dolphins, Steve Hubbard (Ballantine Books, paperback, £5.50).
 - 9 The Climb – Anatoli Boukreev and Weston DeWalt (St Martin's, paperback, £5.99).
 - 10 National Hockey League Official Guide and Record Book 1998-99, edited by Dan Diamond (National Hockey League, paperback, £16.95).
- Chart compiled by Sportspages, 94-96 Charing Cross Road, London (0171 240 9604), St Ann's Square, Manchester (0161 832 8530) and at www.sportspages.co.uk

Wales recover their love of the game

1551

England cap records in rout of Dutch

THE SLAUGHTER of the innocents was witnessed by Georges Coste, coach of Italy, England's next opponents in this appetite whetting of a World Cup qualifying tournament, and nothing England did, the racking up of a century of points and the ditching of the Dutch, frightened him. "I wasn't scared by what I saw," said Coste, after England had run up their highest score in an international, surpassing by a full half century the 60-point efforts against Japan, Canada and Wales in 1987, 1994 and 1998.

Mind you, he did add a rider after so surgical a performance. "But we are very respectful of England's ability." That respect is mutual. Clive Woodward, England's coach, remained merely whelmed by the performance, which he felt was less than perfect ("We could have been more clinical") and his thoughts moved immediately forward to the confrontation with Italy.

"We are under no illusions about the team we meet next week," he said. "It will be a really tough test. When I saw the Italians beat Argentina they were very physical and we have to make sure we are spot on for next Sunday, which will be a really hard game."

That may imply that, in this catchweight contest, his mis-

RUGBY UNION

BY DAVID LLEWELLYN
at the McAlpine Stadium

England	110
Netherlands	0

match of amateurism and professionalism, the Dutch had very little to offer. But that would be unjust and, if the England centre Jeremy Guscott is to be believed, untrue. "I didn't know what to expect when we went out there," said the scorer of four of England's 16 tries.

"But, after being hit two or three times early on, I knew it wasn't going to be as easy as my subconscious had told me. The Dutch just did not give up. They just never said never. They battled right to the end."

Equally, there was little sign of easing up on the part of England. In the past, concentration has wavered and there has been a falling away in scoring towards the end of one-sided matches such as this. Very creditably, this time they were far more ruthless. Neil Back, the Leicester flanker, matched Guscott's try tally with four of his own and earned high praise from Signor Coste, who said: "For me Back is an extraordinary player. I am very very fond of him. He can be beaten physically, perhaps, but he is a player who is always

place, there and all over the world. He is an extraordinary force on the field."

He also likes Guscott and claimed: "When Guscott came on to today he did so with legs on fire." Woodward was less graphic but as fulsome when referring to the pace and power running of the centre, who is now England's second highest try scorer on 22 (still some way behind Rory Underwood's 49).

Woodward said: "Seeing Terry run like that is one of the great sights in sport, not just in rugby. It is fantastic watching him when he gets the ball like that. It was a big plus for me and the team."

Nor did Woodward overlook the importance of the role of the stand-off Paul Grayson in repeatedly hammering home England's massive superiority with his kicking, whether from hand or, more especially, at goal. Grayson landed 15 conversions and nearly doubling Simon Hodgkinson's eight against Romania and falling five short of the tally the New Zealander Simon Danielli set in the 1995 World Cup. The one fuffed kick would have taken Grayson past Rob Andrew's tally of 30 points, the most scored by an English player in a match. Instead he shares the top spot.

"I thought Grayson was fantastic," Woodward said. "I



Jeremy Guscott, with a quart

ought he controlled the game really well, and his goal kicking as outstanding. On his day he is the best goal-kicker in the country. Conversions are what keep the score mounting."

The doom-mongers who were predicting crippling injuries up front because of the drop in standards reckoned without two factors: the common sense of England's front

of tries against the Dutch, who appeared to do just enough to get what they wanted (the ball) and eschewed any cho posturing, and just as importantly, a Dutch scrum which was well-versed technique, if a trifle naïve at times. And the Netherlands boys could tackle as well. The center Rogier van de Walle and scrum Everts were fearless, as were No 8 Coenme Elisara and



and "fire in his legs" said the

open side Nick Holten. um-half Mats Marcker, the captain, a veritable terror with sniping breaks, was demonic in contact, flinging his 5ft 7in frame into the fray every opportunity.

Coach: Vitoa Back 4, Penalty try: Green-Garcia 4, Cockerill, Gary Dawson, Moolay, Boak, Cosovanek Grayson 15

WORTH W Perry (Bath); A Healey, W Jones (Both Leicester); J Sheppard

D Langer (Haringey); P Grayson, Jones (Both Northampton); A Latham (Leeds); R Cockerill, D Garforth (Both

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World Cup which pitted ordered professionals against the willing, but hope-outclassed amateurs of the Netherlands and his verdict unequivocal: no more, David Jewell.

Personal view is there is no more qualifiers," Woodward, reflecting on the 0-0 annihilation of the zealous Dutch team at Ardsfield's McAlpine Stadium day before. "Every body should come to the Cup tournament.

We should have three tournament competitions within tournament, all being run same time, with countries seeded on how strong they are. I am sure that rather than going to Korea for the stage the Netherlands rather come to the World Cup next year and play in a second tier of matches against opponents that they have a good chance of beating."

Surprisingly Woodward's comments were an echo of the Netherlands coach, Hiddink, had expressed two years before the match.

The World Cup is the first full professionalism and already showing the gulf between the pros and the amateur said England's coach, Howard. "I am sure that this subject has been discussed by the authorities. The solution would have to be to set up three competitions in the 2003 tour-



Jeremy Guscott, with a quartet of tries against the Dutch, had "fire in his legs" said the Italian coach Allsport.

Logan exploits weakened Tigers Newcastle turn on style

THE SCOTLAND wing Kenny Logan helped sweep Wasps up to fifth in the table after a serious mauling of the Premiership leaders, Leicester Tigers, at Loftus Road yesterday.

However, the match was devalued because of the decision — courtesy of the Mayfair Agreement last spring — to stage club games contemporaneously with internationals in order to avoid, among other things, fixture congestion at the end of the season. It is probably now just a matter of time before the whingeing starts.

The Leicester absentees were legion. Eight were on England duty against the Netherlands on Saturday, including the entire front row, the

BY DAVID LLEWELLYN	
Wasps	45
Leicester	17

flanker Neil Back and the No 8 Martin Corry. It was little wonder that the Wasps packed round the roost and called the shots almost from the outset. Injuries to a further seven quality players further restricted the Tigers selection, while Wasps were minus just three internationals.

Afterwards Dean Richards, Leicester's director of rugby, while declaring he had no intention of mouning, did have a dart at the fixture arrangements when he said: "I find it ludicrous that we should have to go on this or

an international weekend. We must have to get on with it, but it makes this league something of a lottery.

"The possibility of winning away from home is all important, and that opportunity was taken away as soon as the name was assigned to this particular day. It doesn't seem to me that a great deal of thought was put into the idea. I feel sorry for the players who have put in all that effort to put us at the top of the premiership."

The Tigers tried. Their youngsters were spirited and full of fight, but Logan's 20 points, Trevor Leota's and Paul Volley's race of tries apiece, and the home side's overall superiority in the forwards took its toll.

Despite a well taken try by

he talented full-back Georgian Murphy and another from the infant Paul Gustard, Leicester checked power and weight up to build the necessary uniform. But, even after one of his heaviest league defeats (the biggest was a 47-9 trouncing at Bath two seasons ago), Leicester remain at the top of the table. And the title race remains wide open.

Leicester: Brian Pople, Lesia 2, Volley 2, **Conversions** Logan 3; **Penalties** Murphy 1, Gustard 1. **Leicester:** **Conversions** Glynis 2; **Penalties** none.

Worcester: U. Rober, N. Greenstock, **Scrums**, K. Lottan; **A Kings**, A. Gornarski; **Worley** (A Black, 70), V. Lota, 0. Mackay, 1. Dunsen, M. Wenden (capt), 1. W. (A Reed, 74), E. Rollitz, 2. Muckewitz.

Worcester: G. Murphy, L. Levy, J. Owend, **Scrum**, M. Horak; **Scraps**, (capt), J. Hammar, 0. Jolley, D. West, H. Rows (P. Freshwater), 0. Wingham, P. Gustard, L. Presley.

NEWCASTLE CELEBRATED
his return to Kingston Park
with an emphatic victory
against Northampton, to move
him places up the Premiership
to fifth, and deny Saints the
chance to go into second place.
Newcastle had scored all six of
his tries to lead 45-16, before
Northampton were allowed
back into the game in the final
minutes, when Gary Armagh
was sent to the sin-bin.
Newcastle, allowed just the
time to Northampton would have
been 45-16, but for 12 minutes, Jonny
Kingston had opened his ac-
count - which was to bring
him a total of 25 points - with
a penalty He then converted his
try, for which Vaga Tu-
manu did all the hard work

PAUL STEPHENS	
Castle	45
Hampton	33

well as Armstrong's try five
 eaths later.

Northampton were at their
 effective during an eight-
 eate period in the first half.
 All Saints had to show for
 pressure was a third
 city goal from Alastair Hep-
 mitil, on their next visit
 y territory. Garry Page
 owed over for a try.

that brought Saints up to
 and they would have been
 content to turn round like
 But Tuigamala then scored
 for the posts, Wilkinson set
 the simple conversion. New-
 had opened the gap to

points, and the period for the break was decisive. It piled on the power for Walton and Richard to cross for tries within minutes.

Thompson stemmed the chiefly, but when Wilkinson his second try and his sixth conversion the was over.

tries: Tries Wilkinson 2, Armistead, Walton, Arnold; Tugmaia, Wilkinson 3; Penallion, Northampton: Tries Page 2.

Mettall: Conversions Hepler 2, 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 10; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 24; 25; 26; 27; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 45; 46; 47; 48; 49; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 56; 57; 58; 59; 60; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 66; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 77; 78; 79; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 87; 88; 89; 90; 91; 92; 93; 94; 95; 96; 97; 98; 99; 100.

"I would be doing so
sides of similar stan-
the game needs a glob-
me, an international
ime which incorpo-
he northern and south-
pheres."

Woodward said: "A World Cup
everybody. There is a lot
and money being spent
ification when everyone
e getting together."

all that, though, Wood-
was happy to admit that
erlands game had been
exercise although he did
e that he did not expect
aying the Dutch again.

e Argentinian Pumas
for Wales yesterday
34-14 defeat by France
aking to win the last of
rce-Test European tour
ekend

[illegible]

RUGBY UNION RESULTS	
INTERNATIONAL MATCH	
Wales	30 South Africa 28 (at Wembley)
WORLD CUP QUALIFYING MATCHES	
POOL ONE	
Ireland	70 Georgia (at Lansdowne Road)
POOL TWO	
England	110 Madagascar (at Millers Point, Wondersfield)
POOL MATCHES	
BOBSLEIGH	
WORLD CUP FOUR-MAN CHAIRS:	
Canada (Colgate) 10 Germany I 1 Germany II 1 (A Lange, C. Snyder, E. Kuschel, L.	

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

ICE SKATING

GRAND PRIX (Gelsenkirchen, Ger.)
Womens' 1000m: 1. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 1:30.1; 2. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:30.2; 3. **M. Butyrskaya** (Rus) 1:30.3; 4. **S. Lovenichuk** (Ukr) 1:30.4; 5. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 1:30.5; 6. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:30.6; 7. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:30.7; 8. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:30.8; 9. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:30.9; 10. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.0; 11. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.1; 12. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.2; 13. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.3; 14. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.4; 15. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.5; 16. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.6; 17. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.7; 18. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.8; 19. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:31.9; 20. **Sokolova** (Rus) 1:32.0.

Womens' 1500m: 1. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 2:00.1; 2. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:00.2; 3. **M. Butyrskaya** (Rus) 2:00.3; 4. **S. Lovenichuk** (Ukr) 2:00.4; 5. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 2:00.5; 6. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:00.6; 7. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:00.7; 8. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:00.8; 9. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:00.9; 10. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.0; 11. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.1; 12. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.2; 13. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.3; 14. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.4; 15. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.5; 16. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.6; 17. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.7; 18. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.8; 19. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:01.9; 20. **Sokolova** (Rus) 2:02.0.

Womens' 3000m: 1. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 4:00.1; 2. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:00.2; 3. **M. Butyrskaya** (Rus) 4:00.3; 4. **S. Lovenichuk** (Ukr) 4:00.4; 5. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 4:00.5; 6. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:00.6; 7. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:00.7; 8. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:00.8; 9. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:00.9; 10. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.0; 11. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.1; 12. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.2; 13. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.3; 14. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.4; 15. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.5; 16. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.6; 17. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.7; 18. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.8; 19. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:01.9; 20. **Sokolova** (Rus) 4:02.0.

Womens' 5000m: 1. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 8:00.1; 2. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:00.2; 3. **M. Butyrskaya** (Rus) 8:00.3; 4. **S. Lovenichuk** (Ukr) 8:00.4; 5. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 8:00.5; 6. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:00.6; 7. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:00.7; 8. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:00.8; 9. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:00.9; 10. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.0; 11. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.1; 12. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.2; 13. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.3; 14. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.4; 15. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.5; 16. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.6; 17. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.7; 18. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.8; 19. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:01.9; 20. **Sokolova** (Rus) 8:02.0.

Womens' 10000m: 1. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 16:00.1; 2. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:00.2; 3. **M. Butyrskaya** (Rus) 16:00.3; 4. **S. Lovenichuk** (Ukr) 16:00.4; 5. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 16:00.5; 6. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:00.6; 7. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:00.7; 8. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:00.8; 9. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:00.9; 10. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.0; 11. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.1; 12. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.2; 13. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.3; 14. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.4; 15. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.5; 16. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.6; 17. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.7; 18. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.8; 19. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:01.9; 20. **Sokolova** (Rus) 16:02.0.

Womens' 15000m: 1. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 24:00.1; 2. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:00.2; 3. **M. Butyrskaya** (Rus) 24:00.3; 4. **S. Lovenichuk** (Ukr) 24:00.4; 5. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 24:00.5; 6. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:00.6; 7. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:00.7; 8. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:00.8; 9. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:00.9; 10. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.0; 11. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.1; 12. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.2; 13. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.3; 14. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.4; 15. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.5; 16. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.6; 17. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.7; 18. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.8; 19. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:01.9; 20. **Sokolova** (Rus) 24:02.0.

Womens' 20000m: 1. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 32:00.1; 2. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:00.2; 3. **M. Butyrskaya** (Rus) 32:00.3; 4. **S. Lovenichuk** (Ukr) 32:00.4; 5. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 32:00.5; 6. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:00.6; 7. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:00.7; 8. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:00.8; 9. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:00.9; 10. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.0; 11. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.1; 12. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.2; 13. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.3; 14. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.4; 15. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.5; 16. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.6; 17. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.7; 18. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.8; 19. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:01.9; 20. **Sokolova** (Rus) 32:02.0.

Womens' 25000m: 1. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 40:00.1; 2. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:00.2; 3. **M. Butyrskaya** (Rus) 40:00.3; 4. **S. Lovenichuk** (Ukr) 40:00.4; 5. **Cheryl Coates** (USA) 40:00.5; 6. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:00.6; 7. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:00.7; 8. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:00.8; 9. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:00.9; 10. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.0; 11. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.1; 12. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.2; 13. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.3; 14. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.4; 15. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.5; 16. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.6; 17. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.7; 18. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.8; 19. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:01.9; 20. **Sokolova** (Rus) 40:02.0.

Womens' 3000

WORLD CUP (Harpur, Austria) Standings (Aust. medal awarded) **Men's 15** Katschurich: 12500pts; 2 W Bencher (FR) 12000; 3 M Bencher (FR) 11800; 4 W Bencher (FR) 11600; 5 M Bencher (FR) 11400; 6 W Bencher (FR) 11200; 7 M Bencher (FR) 11000; 8 K. Ruly (FR) 12500; 9 A. Rengel: 11800; 10 M. Pacher: 11600.

ICE HOCKEY

Dates 5 Detroit 1; New Jersey 4
burgh 3; NY Rangers 3 Boston 3
Colorado 5 Tampa Bay 1; Vancouver
Anaheim 2.

C Riegler 520.

SPEED SKATING

WORLD CUP EVENT RESULTS, Nieuwkerk:
Men's 1500m: 1) Posma (Neth) 1:48.2;
2) Smits (Neth) 1:49.76; 3) Brabant (Neth)
1:50.75; 4) Jönsson (Swe) 1:50.55; 5) Hagiya
(Jpn) 1:50.68. Women's 2000m: 1) G Ne-

Hockey Graf (Ger)
Figure Skating Graef (Ger)
Ice Hockey enpoint
Speed Skating nger-
Winter Paralympics ead-
World Cup set (Sw)

SATURDAY'S LOTTO

Draw date: 14/11/98. The winning numbers: 7, 12, 15.
Total Sales: £55,984,944. Prize Fund: £24.6m.

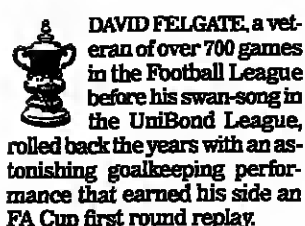
CATEGORY	NO. OF WINNERS
Match 3 (Jackpot)	2
Match 5 plus bonus ball	42
Match 5	1,349
Match 4	78,873
Match 3	1,305,045

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6-7A	CHAMPIONSHIPS	kg	placst 1 A	Ychemeridine (Rus)
6-7A	Sloughing mixed-Bleak 5	197.5/240.0437.5	2 A	Vardanyan (Arm)
6-7A	placst 1 A	197.5/240.0437.5	3 V	Serubelova (Ukr)
6-7A	placst 1 A	195.0/217.5422.5	4 A	P Nadejk (Pol)
6-7A	placst 1 A	173.0/232.52407.5	5 O	Pandek (Rus)
6-7A	placst 1 A	173.0/232.52407.5	6 A	Rokke (Ger)
6-7A	placst 1 A	172.5/215.0387.5	7 J	Yeceder (Sp)
6-7A	placst 1 A	170.0/215.0387.5	8 S	Soro (Sp)
6-7A	placst 1 A	165.0/215.0377.		

FA Cup first round: No joy for Boreham Wood but Leigh RMI, Hendon and Emley take Nationwide sides to replays

Fulham foiled by Felgate's heroics



DAVID FELGATE, a veteran of over 700 games in the Football League before his swan-song in the UniBond League, rolled back the years with an astonishing goalkeeping performance that earned him a place in the FA Cup first round replay.

Felgate now works in a timber yard and there were times when he seemed to have boarded up his goal at Craven Cottage, so effectively did he resist a virtual non-stop barrage.

This would have sounded like a rugby league fixture a few years ago and there was always the prospect of a scoreline more associated with the oval ball when the big spenders of the Second Division met the rude mechanicals of the Railway Mechanics' Institute.

Hard as his team-mates worked it was almost entirely due to Felgate that such an outcome was never on the cards. From the start, Fulham and especially their menacing striker, Dirk Lehmann, bombarded Felgate's goal but the 38-year-old made a string of marvellous saves. When he was beaten, by a Lehmann header from a Steve Hayward corner, the ball bounced onto the line from the underside of the crossbar and was cleared by Graham Hill.

Even more amazing than the manner in which Felgate kept Fulham at bay was the way that Leigh took the lead after 19 minutes; this really was stretching it all too far.

Kit Symons felled Dave Ridings five yards outside the area and Tony Whealings, released by Blackburn Rovers last summer and working as a fitness instructor until Leigh persuaded him back into football, curled a left-footed shot inside the post when Mark Taylor should really have reacted in time.

Fulham responded urgently, John Salako having a shot pushed around the post and Lehmann a volley finger-tipped onto the upright. Yet another Hayward corner, yet another Lehmann header, yet another acrobatic Felgate save.

Leigh even had a golden opportunity to go further ahead,

BY DAVE HADFIELD

Fulham 1
Leigh RMI 1

Ridings running through at the exposed Taylor but not putting enough conviction into his shot.

Something had to give at the other end and the breakthrough, 10 minutes before half-time, came in the predictable manner.

Lehmann climbing to meet Hayward's corner and Felgate for once not being able to reach it. Leigh almost went back in front when Taylor saved from Ian Monk, but that was a rare second-half respite for the visitors.

Paul Peschisoldo gradually got into the game but Felgate was equal to the extra problems he posed, defying both him and Wayne Collins before a series of desperately narrow escapes.

Collins hit the angle of bar and post while Felgate made a superb save from Hayward and an even better one from Paul Trollope, before denying Peschisoldo and watching Geoff Horsfield volley over the bar.

Leigh incurred three bookings as they defended with increasing desperation, but they hung on grimly for their right to a replay. If Felgate can board up his nets again, who knows?

"He does it week in, week out for us," the Leigh manager, Steve Waywell, said. "He's 38 but acts like an 18-year-old. He looks after himself, although he's probably got middle-age spread now. Kevin Keegan asked how much we want for him and I've told him a million."

The Fulham manager, who has seen some inspired goalkeeping displays in his time, rated this as outstanding even in his long experience. "It was just about the best I've ever seen, because of the number of great saves," he said.

Full-time: Fulham (4-4-2): Taylor; Unwin, Symons, Coleman, Brown; Collins, Davis (Inglewood 45), Hayward, Salako (Doherty 71), Peschisoldo, Lehmann. Substitutes not used: Morgan, Smith, Arvidsson (L).
Leigh RMI (3-5-2): Felgate; Hill, Locke, Turpin; Prescott, Smith, Ridings; Burns, Whealings; Work, Cress (61), Mouton. Substitutes not used: Wallace, James, Rossiter, Senior (L).
Referee: P. Roper (West Midlands).
Boreham: Leigh Locke, Hill, Mouton. Man of the match: Felgate.
Attendance: 7,955.



David Felgate, the Leigh RMI keeper, is the centre of celebrations after the UniBond League side's 1-1 draw at Fulham yesterday. Allsport

Gray ends Dixon's dream

THE MEADOW Park ground in Boreham Wood is only a few hundred yards from Elstree film studios and across the road from a NatWest bank administrative centre, a constant reminder to the home team that in the Murdochian football era, dreams tend to go hand in hand with an open cheque book.

Unfortunately on a chilly afternoon, even the fact that Boreham Wood's centre-back Garry Nisbet has a day job printing money for the Bank of England was unable to prevent his side suffering a narrow defeat.

Yet despite their disadvantages - three divisions stand between Luton Town and Boreham Wood of the Ryman League Premier Division - the Hertfordshire minnows could have snatched a win.

BY PETER CONCHIE

Boreham Wood 2
Luton Town 3

The visitors arrived knowing what to expect. Kenilworth Road is situated just a short hop from Stevenage Borough, last year's non-League FA Cup overachievers, while they themselves have been ruffling Premiership feathers this season, most notably with a win over Coventry in the third round of the Worthington Cup.

But they also have a proud FA Cup tradition to defend, having reached three FA Cup semi-finals since 1985, the last of which, in 1994, against Chelsea, featured a certain Kerry Dixon. Boreham Wood's current centre-forward.

"They kept clawing themselves back into the game," the Luton manager, Lennie Lawrence, remarked. "We needed a replay like a hole in the head and they might certainly have nicked a draw."

Indeed they might, but after Phil Gray's headed opener for Luton, they were always playing catch-up. For Boreham Wood the 37-year-old Dixon combined well with Dominic Grime and Tony Samuels, the latter's frightening pace unnerving the Luton defence. On the whole the non-League team's first-half performance was bright, considering they had lost their last match 6-0 to Aldershot.

The second half was less than 10 minutes old when Gray scored his and Luton's second.

Douglas skipped past the mammoth figure of Garry Nisbet and pulled back an accurate cross, which the former Sunderland player knocked high into the net from eight yards out.

Nisbet atoned a minute later, finishing coolly after a long ball confused then eluded the Luton defenders.

Boreham Wood then had 20 minutes or so in which to pull themselves back into the match before their tormentor-in-chief Gray crossed towards the head of Steve Davis. His firm header found its way into the net via the hand of the goalkeeper Martin Taylor.

The Boreham Wood substitute Mark Xavier then condemned Luton to what Lawrence called "a nervous and hairy" last 10 minutes

when Dixon's flicked header fell kindly for him to finish.

Boreham Wood were perhaps a little unlucky - even their mascot for the day was a Tottenham fan - but ultimately their spirit alone did not merit a win and there was to be no fairy-tale ending for the lumbering Dixon. Luton, in contrast, look well set for another Cup run, after they were paired with the League's bottom club Hull City in the next round.

Goals: Gray 23 (8-11), Gray 53 (8-2), Moses 54 (1-2), S Davis 76 (1-3), Xavier 81 (2-3).
Boreham Wood (3-5-2): Taylor; Sanders, Nisbet, McCarthy, Shaw, Brown (Daly 58), Grime, Douglas (Doherty 66), Gray. Substitutes not used: White, Abbey.
Bookings: Luton: McLaren.
Referee: P. E. Alcock (Halswood).
Man of the match: Gray (Luton).
Attendance: 1,772.

Hudson denies brave Emley Terriers look ahead

FIREMAN Simeon Barnbrook set alarm bells ringing for Emley's Third Division opponents yesterday before a late equaliser prevented Rotherham joining the weekend's list of FA Cup casualties.

Such is the organisation of Ronnie Glavin's team, and talent of the likes of the elusive winger Mickey Reynolds, that Barnbrook's 12th-minute goal did not come as a surprise.

Reynolds, who interests Leeds United, was excellent down both wings. He almost scored at the end of a dashing run down the left before close control made space for him to set up Barnbrook for an eight-yard shot.

Paul David, the colossus who scored against West Ham last season, should have added

BY ALAN NIXON

Emley 1
Rotherham United 1

a second when he headed tamely from an Ian Banks free-kick but still had Mike Pollitt scurrying to save at his post.

With policeman Neil Lacey and another fireman, Mickey Thompson, outstanding in central defence, Emley held on comfortably and could have strengthened their lead through Reynolds. One dart from the half-way line ended with an angled shot and he then put an effort the wrong side of a post at the start of the second half.

Rotherham were short of ideas and imagination, shooting from long range without testing the experienced Andy Rhodes

in Emley's goal. However, Emley were on the back foot by the latter stages with an injury to hard-running Steve Nicholson, yet another fireman, weakening their right flank.

An equaliser was always possible with men camped in their own box and when Thompson only cleared to the edge of the area, Danny Hudson cracked a curling, low drive into the far corner.

Trevor Berry might have stolen a victory when he scooped a back-header out of Rhodes' hands and agonisingly wide. The sigh of relief will soon be followed by the jangling of bells from a money-spinning replay.

An away game should hold no fears for Emley. The UniBond outfit have progressed

that way through the previous three rounds. They will hope for more protection next time for Reynolds, who was the victim of several rough tackles that led to three bookings.

"We certainly have a chance," Glavin said. "But we have got to be positive. The players are disappointed with a draw against Rotherham who are second in the Third Division. It goes to show you how much we have come on."

Goals: Barnbrook (14) 1-0; Hudson (80) 1-1.
Emley (4-4-2): Rhodes; Nicholson (Wood 22), Thompson, Lacey, Jones; Reynolds, Horst, David, Banks; Thorpe (Calcutt 68), Barnbrook. Substitutes not used: Wilson, Tonks, Smith.
Rotherham Unstated: Pollitt; Inglewood, Warner, Richardson, Horst; Seligwick, Hudson, Garner, Roscoe; Berry, Tracy (Glover 57). Substitutes not used: Thompson, Pedgley, Roden, Monkhouse.
Referee: D. Laws (Whitley Bay).
Man of the match: Reynolds.
Attendance: 6,067.

NON-LEAGUE Bedlington have one eye on a money-spinning third round tie after knocking Second Division Colchester out of the FA Cup.

The Arncliffe Insurance Northern League champions booked their place in the second round for the first time after trouncing Steve Wignall's side 4-1 at Welfare Park.

The striker John Milner scored twice for the Terriers, against a side containing the former Tottenham midfielder Jason Dozzell, to earn a trip to Scunthorpe in the next round.

"We would have liked another home draw," said the Terriers' joint manager, Keith Perry. "But if we can play the same way at Scunthorpe who knows what might lie ahead."

David Penney grabbed the

FA CUP ROUND-UP

goal which saw Doncaster, relegated out of the Football League last season, embarrass Southend at Roots Hall to set up a second round tie at home to fellow Conference side Rushden & Diamonds. It was the first time Rovers had reached the second round since 1989 and a blow for the Shrimpers manager, Alvin Martin, a Cup winner with West Ham in 1980.

Another man to have tasted Wembley glory in this competition is the former Ipswich and Arsenal player Brian Talbot, now manager of Rushden & Diamonds. He enjoyed more success thanks to Paul Underwood's only goal of the game at home to Shrewsbury - but

claims promotion from the Conference is far more important.

Hednesford, who were beaten by the eventual finalists Middlesbrough in the fourth round two seasons ago, were at it again with a 3-1 defeat of Third Division Barnet to earn a trip to Cardiff for the Conference club.

Tamworth were within a minute of victory at Exeter before the Devon side fought back to snatch a 2-2 draw. There was the same score at Macclesfield, who came back from two goals down against Slough.

A great fight-back by Enfield secured them a place in the second round draw, York tossing away a two-goal advantage. The winners of the replay take on Wrexham at the Racecourse Ground.

THE FA CUP

SECOND ROUND DRAW

Preston North End v Walsall; Darlington or Burnley v Manchester City; Scunthorpe United v Manchester City; Swindon v Leyton Orient; Swindon City v Stoke City; Fulham or Leigh RMI v Hartlepool; Hendon or North County v Wigan Athletic; Oldham v Brentford; Doncaster v Rushden & Diamonds; Lincoln City v Runcorn or Stevenage Borough; Luton Town v Hull City; Exeter United v Bournemouth; Wycombe Wanderers v Plymouth Argyle; Kidderminster Harriers v Macclesfield Town or Slough v Cambridge United; Cardiff City v Hednesford Town; Yeovil Town or West Auckland v South v Northampton Town; Wrexham or Enfield or York City; Tamworth or Exeter City v Bristol Rovers; Scarborough or Rochdale v Emley; Rotherham; Mansfield v Southport. This to be played on the 4th, 5th and 6th December

Rangers race to a comfortable lead

RANGERS, LIKE Celtic, have become the subject of a takeover bid, but while Celtic supporters hold their breath in anticipation of the possible return of Kenny Dalglish the currency around Ibrox is measured in points rather than pounds.

After just 14 games Rangers have opened up a 10-point lead over their rivals and a six-point lead over second placed Kilmarnock. They could move further ahead of Celtic when the two meet on Saturday at Celtic Park. The latest victory - 2-1 over Aberdeen - follows a 7-0 rout over St Johnstone and provides further evidence that Dick Advocaat is creating a team with strength in every de-

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL
BY DAVID MCKINNEY

partment. Even so, you will not find anybody at Ibrox getting too carried away, with Colin Hendry saying: "You win nothing in November. I remember Manchester United being 16 points clear when I was at Blackburn and we cut it to two."

While Rangers were winning on Saturday, Celtic were losing when a mistake by Vidar Riseth led to St Johnstone's winning goal as Sandy Clark's side demonstrated a remarkable resilience after a feeble performance of last week. The defeat will increase the

pressure on Dr Jozef Venglos and there is little doubt that a defeat against Rangers would intensify the pressure on Fergus McCann to sell his shares early to the consortium headed by Dalglish and Jim Kerr.

McCann does not have to sell, of course, and is duty-bound to consider the best interests of the shareholders, but the high-profile pair are being hacked by serious money and McCann has indicated he could be persuaded to sell earlier than his planned date of March if the board decide it would be in the club's best interest.

A double by the Motherwell striker Owen Coyle accounted

for Hearts in a 3-2 success at Fir Park and inspired him to pay tribute to his new manager, Billy Davies. Coyle's brace added to John Spencer's opener to continue Motherwell's impressive surge of form since Davies' arrival at the helm was christened with a painful 5-0 trouncing at St Johnstone in mid-October.

Motherwell have now risen to fifth in the Scottish Premier League with the often negative tactics deployed by Davies' predecessor, the cautious Finn Harri Kampman, now consigned to the past.

Coyle said: "I know the players are the ones who have done the job, but the drive has

been coming from the manager who is very enthusiastic and that rubs off on everybody."

"He was very attack-minded as a player and he is now looking to make us a very attack-minded team so hopefully we can do that and the fans will come back to Fir Park."

Hearts, who scored through a Jim Hamilton penalty and a skilful Vincent Guerin strike, are still without an away league win this season.

Elsewhere, Kilmarnock were frustrated by the resilience of Dundee at Dens Park in a 1-1 draw that left their goalscorer, Jerome Vareille, casting doubt on whether a title charge is realistic.

THE BRAZILIAN Paolo Sergio and the Frenchman Vincent Candela were both on target yesterday as Roma defeated a depleted Juventus side 2-0 to trim Fiorentina's Serie A lead to one point.

Fiorentina were surprisingly beaten 4-2 at Piacenza after twice levelling the score from penalties.

Francesco Totti's pin-point free-kick found Sergio unmarked in the Juve area for the 44th-minute opener, before Candela added a superb second in the dying minutes to condemn the champions to their second defeat of the season. Juventus had the Uruguayan Paolo Montero sent off in the 59th minute.

OVERSEAS ROUND-UP

Florentina eventually capitulated to second-half goals from Paolo Cristallini and Giampietro Piovani. It was their third successive away defeat. With 17 points from nine matches, Roma are ahead of Juventus on goal difference and one point behind Fiorentina.

Elsewhere the Argentinian Hernan Crespo resolved Parma's recent goalscoring problems with a hat-trick in a 4-1 home win over Udinese, while Yuri Djorkaeff hit two penalties in Inter's 3-0 victory over Sampdoria at the San Siro.

Celta Vigo beat Real Madrid at the Bernabeu for the first time in 50 years to go top of the Spanish league. The 2-1 win left the Galician club still unbeaten this season with 20 points. Real, who saw Davor Suker miss a late penalty, slipped to third on 18 points. The Brazilian World Cup defender Roberto Carlos scored for Real, but he also made two errors that resulted in goals.

In France, the league leaders, Marseille, continued their impressive start to the season before a crowd of 50,000 with a 1-0 win against last season's champions Lens, to move four points clear at the top. Christophe Dugarry scored the goal.

John 21/11/98

Beckham still petulant as ever

BY PHIL SHAW

Manchester United 3
Blackburn Rovers 2

OLD TRAFFORD's acquaintance with the *bons mots* of French footballing thinkers tends to be limited to cod philosophy about sardines and seagulls. But the words of Eric Cantona's most distinguished, perhaps only, predecessor sprung to mind as the rival managers pondered Tim Sherwood's dismissal for elbowing David Beckham.

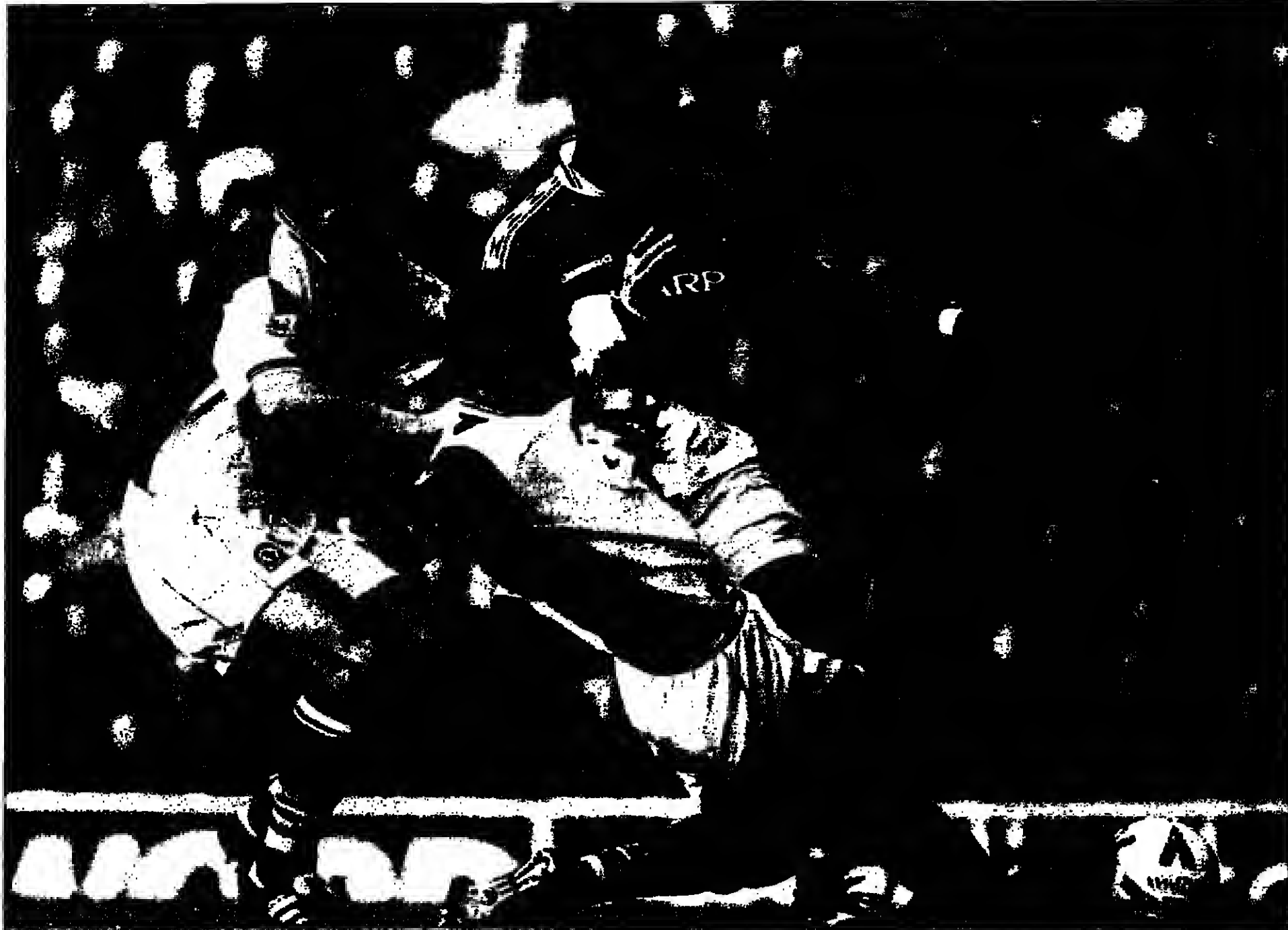
Albert Camus, something of a Peter Schmeichel when he was not contemplating navals or novels, once claimed that "everything I know about morality and the obligations of man, I owe to football". His pronouncement, which lives on as a T-shirt slogan, came at a time when the Busby Babes carried the flag for fair and fairness as England's representatives in Europe.

To suggest that the sport was a model of moral rectitude in their heyday would be to view it through rose-tinted glasses. However, it is hard to imagine that Duncan Edwards would have fallen, clasp his head, after a blow in the chest as the finest of Manchester United's latest generation of gifted young players did on Saturday.

Beckham went down like a wounded rhino when Sherwood, the Blackburn captain, irritably swung an arm at the red shirt charging towards him. Alex Ferguson summed up the incident as "silly, because nothing really happened", which was one way of overlooking his own player's excitable reaction to being fouled.

Sherwood's manager, Roy Hodgson, might have been expected to condemn Beckham or the referee, Mike Reed, for helping to deprive him of a key player for three matches that could determine not only whether Blackburn spend the winter fighting relegation but his own job security. Instead, he castigated his own man for giving the official an excuse to send him off.

Hodgson's rationale was that a player of Sherwood's experience knows that raising an arm to an opponent is a red card offence. For all that, it was "a minor incident" which involved "no contact" and he added pointedly: "The last time someone put an elbow in my face, it broke my nose."



Blackburn's Stéphane Henchoz makes a desperate tackle to deny Manchester United's Dwight Yorke as Jeff Kenna looks on at Old Trafford on Saturday. Allsport

He was coy about openly criticising Beckham. "I'm a realistic football man," he said. "Players do what they do and I'm not prepared to moralise about it." Perhaps it is time someone was – and to ask what it says about our values that the Camus quote should now appear so naïve.

Equally, if Beckham is justifying his escape from punishment by the Premiership's most punitive official on the grounds that he was harshly banished after the fiasco with

Argentina's Diego Simeone, then he has learned nothing from St Etienne. He was the "victim" this time, but the petulant streak remains as blatant as the highlights in his hair. The curious aspect of Sherwood's folly was that it worked against United. Coasting on the back of clinically taken goals by Paul Scholes and Dwight Yorke, they scored again shortly afterwards. Unsurprisingly, given their sapping schedule, they eased up.

Dario Marcolin, who had al-

ready volleyed rashly over, soon beat Schmeichel. Nathan Blake then hurried a free header as United, by their manager's admission, became "careless", although the 10 men never seriously threatened to equalise. United's victory, with an under-strength side, underlined the squad depth they will need to keep the championship and European Cup in their sights. Ferguson's big summer buys, Yorke and Jaap Stam, were especially impressive.

The £12.6m lavished on

Yorke looks less exorbitant with every goal, and he is in double figures already. Even on the lunar landscape of a pitch which United dug up and replaced yesterday, his clever linking with midfield contrasted starkly with the one-dimensional play of Hodgson's £11.5m strike force.

Alan Shearer and Chris Sutton were known as the SAS. To see Blake and Kevin Davies subbed by Stam, in a neat reversal of the way the Dutchman's rugby-playing compatriots were

being brushed aside by England, was to be reminded that this Blackburn duo risk being remembered as BAD.

Jack Walker, who bankrolled their purchase, insists that he is as committed as ever, while his fellow supporters vociferously drowned out 53,000 home fans.

United may have adopted "Theatre of Dreams" as a marketing slogan, and playing certainly had a part in this drama, but a crowd spoiled by success are be-

coming as circumspect as a theatre audience.

Goals: Scholes (31) 1-0; Yorke (43) 2-0; Scholes (59) 3-0; Marcolin (66) 3-1. (Black) 3-2. Manchester United (4-4-2): Schmeichel; Neville, Scott, G. Neville, Curtis, Beckham; Scholes (Cruyff), 63; Keane, 81. But, Blomqvist (Scholes), 66; Cole, Yorke. Substitutes not used: Irwin, Best. Blackburn Rovers (4-4-2): Flann, Kenna, Henchoz, Peacock, Davidson (Cruyff), 53; Johnson, Sherwood, Bailey, Gullit (Marcolin), 52; Blake, Davies (Gullit), 78. Substitutes not used: Dunn, Fettes (94). Referee: M. Reed (Birmingham). Sending-off: Blackburn: Sherwood. Bookings: United: Scholes, Stam, Blackburn: Davies, Sherwood, Johnson, Henchoz. Man of the match: Yorke. Attendance: 53,198.

Stylish tribute led by Zola

BY CLIVE WHITE

Chelsea 3
Wimbledon 0

AS "get well soon" presents go one could think of something more uplifting than this awesome attacking one from Chelsea for the unfortunate Pierluigi Casiraghi. While their Italian colleague was clearly very much in their thoughts, their football in no way suffered from his absence and, in fact, without wishing to sound unsympathetic, it looked a lot more lethal.

So impressive were Chelsea that one is tempted to say that they did not even miss the excellent Brian Laudrup or come to that, their player-manager. This was as close to a perfect performance as they have produced under Gianluca Vialli, and their doleful-looking manager virtually admitted as much. The more realistic Chelsea fans may be reluctant to concede it just yet, having watched their teams flatter to deceive more often than they care to remember, but – whisper it – this is a side who could win the championship this season.

Wimbledon are rarely beaten this easily by anyone, not that the scoreline suitably reflected it, and by the 66th minute their fans were screaming at Joe Kinnear to do something to stop the slaughter. But just as he was poised to make a three-fold substitution the third goal went in from Dan Petrescu. The thought occurred that he could have replaced his entire team for all the good it would have done.

It may have been no coincidence that Chelsea's dramatic improvement at West Ham last week began the moment Tore Andre Flo came on for the stricken Casiraghi. The Italian, not one of your typical foreign mercenaries, is a fully committed sort and good technically, but he is not prolific. His strike ratio in Italy of a goal nearly every four games was not a particularly good one, even by Serie A standards.

Flo's all-round contribution is greater partly because of the extra options his height offers but chiefly because he is a natural goalscorer. In the few games he started last season he proved that he was not unduly flattered by his strike ratio of a goal every two games in Norway. Awarded his first Premiership start of the season he did just about everything but score on Saturday, giving rise to the thought that only now was he properly launching his Chelsea career.

Vialli hinted that with a partnership like that of Flo and Gianfranco Zola at his disposal he might soon be able to dispense with the "player" bit in his player-manager title. The indication that he would not be returning to the transfer market for a replacement for either Casiraghi or Laudrup seemed to spell the end of his controversial squad rotation system, too. "The spirit of the team at the moment is great and I'm always concerned about that, so before we do something in the market we have to be really careful," he said.

His suggestion that Chelsea were "almost a team" looked something of an understatement on Saturday. Once Wimbledon's defence was breached, Chelsea established a rhythm which the Dons could not possibly match. But before they indulged themselves in some exhibition stuff they first remembered Casiraghi. Flo's powerful right-wing run and Zola's conclusive finish in the 32nd minute saw the little Italian sprinting towards the Chelsea bench to hold aloft the No 10 shirt of their absent friend. His joy was unconfined but not just because it was his first goal in seven weeks.

"Before the game I asked my team-mates whoever scores the first goal to run to the bench and lift Casiraghi's shirt," Zola said. "We know he's very down and we wanted him to know we are close to him all the time he is suffering. I'm really proud to be the one who scored. It was one of the most emotional moments of my career." Goals: Zola (32) 1-0; Flo (55) 2-0; Petrescu (66) 3-0. Chelsea (4-4-2): De Gea; Lambourde, Dally, Lehoucq, Le Saux; Flo, Zola (Cruyff), 81; D. Martinez (Marcolin), 66. Substitutes not used: Arley, Held (94). Referee: J. Winter (Stockton-on-Tees). Bookings: Wimbledon: Hughes, Roberts, Cole. Man of the match: Flo. Attendance: 34,751.

Dublin treble keeps Villa at the summit

HAVING A team photo taken on the pitch after Aston Villa had made a little bit of history by starting the season unbeaten in 13 matches was not, John Gregory insisted, inviting a hostage to fortune.

"I just wanted to capture the moment for myself to look back on and look forward," he said. Dion Dublin, trumping two goals on his debut last week with a hat-trick, might quite like a copy as well, but it will be a surprise if there are no further celebrations before next May for this increasingly impressive Villa side.

Not that winning at Southampton these days is sufficient cause in itself either for turning cartwheels or commissioning commemorative photographs. At the top of the tunnel at the Premiership's smallest ground is a sign reading: "You are entering The Dell," which is about as frightening a warning at present as "This is Anfield." It can only be a matter of time before some team or other – probably Wimbledon – scribbles "So What?" underneath.

At half-time, with Villa deservedly leading 1-0, the former Southampton left-back

BY STEVE TONGUE

Southampton 1
Aston Villa 4

and coach, Dennis Rofe, now a radio pundit and pitch announcer, did a stirring job in lifting the crowd out of their depression.

"Come on, lots of work to do, we can get something out of this," he exhorted. Dave Jones, the manager, was presumably preaching the same gospel in the dressing-room and with James Beattie on as an extra attacker for the inadequate Claus Lundekvam, the effect was dramatic – for 10 minutes.

Matthew Le Tissier scored a lovely goal, picking Beattie's header and bidding his time until just enough space appeared for a left-footed shot into the bottom corner of Michael Oakes' net. Where there's a Mat, there's a hope, though whether even he can keep this team up is open to considerable doubt.

Two minutes after his equaliser, Ugo Ehiogu inadvertently diverted Stuart Ripley's cross against his own bar and, ever so briefly, the afternoon appeared to be taking an entirely unexpected turn.



Dion Dublin celebrates his Villa hat-trick. Allsport

Dublin steered it back on course almost immediately, matching Le Tissier's precision with a measured low shot of his own just inside a post, from Lee Hendrie's pass.

The rest was straightforward. Le Tissier, troubled by a hamstring strain, hobbled away. Paul Merson swept in Stan Collymore's centre, and Dublin, having spurned one chance for his hat-trick, accepted another with a cheeky flick.

Now for Arsenal, Manchester United and Liverpool, the next three visitors to Villa Park. "Everyone's saying we haven't played anyone yet, but they haven't played us either," said Gregory, which is a fair point. None of them will relish facing a front four comprising Dublin and Collymore with Hendrie

and Merson immediately behind them and the wing-backs sweeping forward as well.

Before that, Glenn Hoddle could do worse than take advantage of the leaders' confidence and cohesion by using Dublin, Hendrie, Merson and Gareth Southgate against the Czech Republic at Wembley on Wednesday. Villa's cameraman should make a point of being there.

Goals: Dublin (3) 0-1; Le Tissier (53) 1-1; Dublin (56) 1-2; Merson (77) 1-3; Dublin (85) 1-4. Southampton (4-4-1-1): Jones; Hiley, Monks, Lundekvam (Beattie, 45), Bonal, Ripley, Gidley, Palmer, Dodd; Le Tissier (Williams, 78), Cochrane, Substitutes not used: Dryden, Kachuro, Moss (94). Aston Villa (3-5-2): Oakes; Ehiogu, Southgate, Barry, Watson, Hendrie, Taylor, Merson (Dodd, 83), Wright; Dublin, Collymore (Drops, 79), Substitutes not used: Thompson, Grayson, Rachel (89), Matthews, N. Barry (Southampton). Bookings: Southampton: Le Tissier, Villa: Collymore. Man of the match: Dublin. Attendance: 15,242.

Gullit's song fails to please Toon critics

BY SCOTT BARNES

Newcastle United 1
Sheffield Wednesday 1

IN THE silence that these days fills what once was a hotbed of football passion, the sound of the pre-match music at St James' Park minutes before the teams appeared spoke volumes. "We gotta get out of this place," sang the Animals immediately followed by Dylan asking: "How does it feel to be out on your own with no direction at all?"

When the teams did appear to Mark Knopfler's "Local Hero" there were even cheers for one such – Warren Barton – and cheers only for a returning hero, Pavel Srnec. The Czech goalkeeper hurriedly signed by Wednesday to deputise for Kevin Pressman, played seven seasons and made 149 League appearances for Newcastle, although the warmth of his reception suggested his frustrating eccentricities had been forgotten in the six months since his departure.

Rund Gullit sensed the unease caused by three successive scoreless League matches, and a mediocre dismissal from the Worthington Cup mid-week on penalties by Blackburn. He accommodated Rob Lee, Didi Hamann and Keith Gillespie in a creative-looking midfield at the expense of David Batty. "I hope he was disappointed," said Gullit. He even got an early goal from Paul Dalglish –

courtesy of a Srnec's eccentricity – but still slowly Wednesday, with just one goal in their previous six games, looked more likely.

"I don't think we played bad football but we need to create more," said Gullit. "In midfield we struggled. We needed to hold the ball better." And so Batty, after just 34 minutes, replaced Hamann.

Alan Shearer's half-time withdrawal with a hamstring injury further muddled Newcastle's direction, although the striker's presence had served only to contrast his lethargy with Dalglish's energy.

"We had two or three clear-cut chances in the first half and it was a big incentive for us when we saw Shearer wasn't on the park," said Danny Wilson. Sadly, neither the incentive, nor the appearance of a bare-breasted female streaker, sufficiently stirred either side and the game stagnated into a stalemate watched in silence.

Benito Carbone, tricky in the first half, was substituted in 68th minute and expressed his dismay with a gesture at Wilson. "He has to appreciate that it is a team game," said his

manager. "It was his first game in six weeks and he looked tired."

The fresh legs of Richie Humphreys brought extra running and Wednesday were rewarded 10 minutes from time. Barton debated with Laurent Charvet the merits of clearing a high ball, so Pether Rudi stole in and steered the ball home off Charvet's shins.

"We were fortunate with the ricochet, but that has been something we've missed in recent weeks," said Wilson. "We are not conceding many goals and in 70 per cent of our games we could have got something. That bit of luck could have turned the corner for us."

A final song in the story silence summed the game up. "Where's your sexy football now?" asked the Wednesday contingent. In reply came a sad snattering of applause in agreement, and Srnec was the only player cheered from the pitch.

Goals: Dalglish, 4 (1-0) Rudi, 80 (1-1). Newcastle (4-4-2): Given; Barton, Charvet, Hughes, Griffin (Srnec, 45); Gillespie, Hamann (Batty, 34), Lee, Speed; Shearer (Anderson, 45), Dalglish. Substitutes not used: Harner (80), Salano. Sheffield Wednesday (4-4-2): Srnec; Rudin, Joni, Alexander, Sorrier (Wilson, 57); Booth, Carbone (Humphreys, 55). Substitutes not used: Clarke (94), Newsome, Stefanovic. Referee: Peter Jones (Loughborough). Bookings: Newcastle: Barry, Gillespie, Hamann. Wednesday: Sorrier. Man of the match: Lee. Attendance: 36,698.

Sunderland make the most of Quinn's reprieve

NIAL QUINN might well have been training with the Republic of Ireland squad on Saturday. Instead he had permission to stay with his club and joined up with his fellow internationals yesterday content with having helped Sunderland earn three points to maintain their five-point lead at the top of the Nationwide First Division.

Mick McCarthy, the Republic's manager, was not particularly happy that world football's governing body, Fifa, had waived

NATIONWIDE ROUND-UP

the five-day release rule, enabling both Irish and Yugoslav players to appear for their clubs this weekend before Wednesday's rearranged European championship qualifier between the two nations in Belgrade. Peter Reid, Sunderland's manager, was delighted, however.

Quinn scored one goal and contributed to the other, turned into his own net by Neil Aspin,

as Sunderland won 2-0 at Port Vale. Reid said: "We took advantage of the Fifa rule to play Niall Quinn and I was pleased he was available. He made a very good contribution."

Watford's 1-1 draw at Stockport County and Birmingham City's 1-0 home defeat by Oxford allowed Ipswich Town to pull clear in second place, which rounded off a magnificent fortnight for the goalkeeper Richard Wright. Called up for England's squad for the friend-

ly against the Czech Republic at Wembley, Wright began his spectacular spell by becoming a father hours before helping Ipswich to beat Wolves. He then was named the Nationwide League player of October, which enhanced his 21st birthday celebrations, and was followed by the England call. Saturday's game at Barnsley brought the 25m-rated keeper his 12th clean sheet of the season.

He pulled off two superb saves at Barnsley to preserve

the fifth-minute advantage earned by David Johnson. "The rate things are going then I would hope it's not too much longer before I am in the Premier League," said Wright, who would find no shortage of takers if Ipswich miss promotion again this season.

Remarkable as Wright is at keeping the ball out of the net, Lee Hughes is his equal at putting the ball in it. The West Bromwich Albion striker took his season's tally to 21 with a

hat-trick in a 3-1 victory over Huddersfield Town, who had their keeper, Nico Vaesen, sent off. Hughes struck twice from the penalty spot and added a late third after David Beresford had given the visitors the lead.

Not that Albion's manager, Denis Smith, is satisfied. "I know he has got 21 goals so far this season but he could have taken that figure up to 30," he said.

There was a hat-trick, too, for Sheffield United's Belarus international, Petr Kachuro, who

struck in 23 second-half minutes to condemn Bury to a 3-1 defeat.

Fifth-placed Bradford City kept up their fine run of form with a 3-0 victory over Swindon Town at Valley Parade, while Queen's Park Rangers continued their revival since Gerry Francis returned to Loftus Road for a second spell as manager. They swept aside Crewe Alexandra 2-0 with goals from Gavin Peacock and Mike Sieron, who scored with a spectacular overhead kick.

Graham expert in surviving a grilling

ONE of the things that distinguishes George Graham in football management is the sunny disposition he brings to the job. Show Graham a microphone or a room filled with scribes and a disarming smile crosses his lean features. Politicians could take lessons from him.

There is nothing new in retrospective praise for the opposition to emphasise achievement but nobody employs the trick more effectively than the man whose mark is already on the Tottenham team that held Arsenal to a 0-0 draw at Highbury on Saturday. "I thought Arsenal were outstanding," Graham said. "They pounded us." Then, with a glint in his eye, "but we didn't crack."

Clever in his manipulation of the audience, alert to the



KEN JONES

don't determine the jobs you take. And what about remarks attributed to Nigel Winterburn who was a raw full-back when advanced to help form a vaunted Arsenal defence and win six major trophies, but now supposedly glad to be free of his old mentor's guidance? "Nigel's a good lad," Graham said. "He was set up."

Graham was soon at it again, stating that the satisfaction of a point gained in difficult circumstances did not blind him to deficiencies in collective application. "We can play a lot better than that," he added. "We scored two goals at Aston Villa last week, then three at Liverpool, but today we hardly gave Arsenal's defence a problem."

When we spoke on Friday

evening Graham stressed the extent of his task at White Hart Lane. Too many players with age against them, very little coming through. "It's going to be a long haul," he said.

Nevertheless, Graham's influence, especially in matters of defensive co-ordination and collective responsibility, was soon evident on Saturday.

Employing a narrow shape that made it difficult for Arsenal to make central progress within the cramped confines of their pitch, Tottenham were further bolstered by Espen Baardsen's expert shot-stopping.

The statistics are revealing. "We had 11 shots on target to only one by Tottenham, 11 corners to their one," Arsène Wenger said, when stating that everything about Arsenal's

performance pleased him except the finishing.

With Dennis Bergkamp still unfit and out of form this season, goals are Wenger's most pressing problem. Now only three in three home Premier League games that have seen four points dropped, and just two in Champions' League tussles against Dynamo Kiev.

Graham's priorities are pretty obvious: a resolute central defender to play alongside Sol Campbell, whose own game needs some fine tuning before the praise that has come his way is fully justified, greater strength in midfield and support for Steffen Iversen.

Had Arsenal taken the lead early, had Baardsen not been so agile in dealing with first-half strikes by Emmanuel Petit and

Nicolas Anelka it would probably have been a much different story. "A goal makes things easier," Wenger said. "The team becomes more relaxed, their confidence increases."

With time running out, Arsenal's normally cool manager began to display signs of agitation. The sight of Luis Boa Morte going out to take a corner instead of Petit, who strikes a wicked ball, sent him howling to the touchline. Think for yourselves is something that coaches always stress in preparation. Wenger must still think for his team as Graham thinks for Tottenham.

Graham thinks also about the young players he left behind at Leeds United. "There is some terrific talent coming through there," he said.

In the absence of a supply

line at White Hart Lane it comes around to buying players. Too much money chasing too little talent is a common complaint in football today but it is the route along which Graham is sure to be heading.

Privately, Graham found the result at Arsenal satisfying. A difficult day, a statement made, something for Tottenham's supporters to be going on with, a reason for them to believe that things are beginning to look up in their section of north London.

Arsenal (4-4-2): Seaman; Dyer, Keown, Adams, Westerman; Parlova, Vieira, Petit, Ljungberg (68); Anelka (80), Marc Wicini, Dierckx, Substitutes not used: Hughes, Grenville, Marmey (64), Tottenham (3-5-2): Baardsen, Scullis, Vago, Campbell, Carr, Anderson, Cattermole (50), Nelson, Edinburg, Jensen, Armstrong, Substitutes not used: Givson, Allen, Clemence, Walker (64), Referee: A. White (Cassidy & Sneyd), Bookings: Arsenal: Westerman, Tottenham: Cattermole, Armstrong, Man of the match: Baardsen. Attendance: 36,278.

Ireland defender Harte pulls out

BY TOMMY STANFORTH

IAN HARTE, the Leeds United defender, is out of the Republic of Ireland's squad to meet Yugoslavia in the rearranged Group Eight European Championship qualifying tie in Belgrade on Wednesday.

Harte injured a bone in his foot in Leeds' 3-1 victory over Liverpool at Anfield on Saturday. Middlesbrough's Curtis Fleming has been called up to join the squad which flies out to Belgrade today.

Last week Mick McCarthy, Ireland's manager, was unhappy about world football's governing body, Fifa, waiving the five-day release rule, enabling his players to stay with their clubs over the weekend rather than join him for training Sunday morning's telephone calls brought the news he dreaded. Apart from Harte, he now also has injury concerns about David Connolly of Wolves, Charlton's Mark Kinsella and Liverpool's Steve Staunton, none of whom took part in yesterday's training session in Dublin. Connolly and Kinsella are suffering from dead legs while Staunton has a slight ankle problem.

"We always knew that if they played, there was every chance of some of them being injured," McCarthy said. "But there is nothing we can do about it and we just have to get on with the job in hand. It's finished and now we must concentrate on Wednesday."

Barry Ferguson, the Rangers midfielder, was yesterday drafted into the Scotland Under-21 squad to face their Belgian counterparts in midweek at the insistence of his club manager, Dick Advocaat.

Ferguson, who has already collected a full cap for Scotland in Lithuania as a substitute, was not part of Alex Smith's initial squad because of concerns over his match fitness for Wednesday night. But Ferguson returned for his club side in yesterday's 2-1 home win over Aberdeen, prompting Advocaat to contact Smith to make it clear the player would be released for the European Championship qualifier at Love Street.

Mikkel Beck is ready to leave Middlesbrough following the ESM arrival of Brian Deane from Benfica. The 25-year-old Danish international striker is unhappy at being relegated to the substitutes' bench after forming an effective partnership with the Colombian international Hamilton Ricard earlier in the season.

Far from being unhappy at losing three of players to Glenn Hoddle's full England squad England's Under-21 coach, Peter Taylor is delighted. The loss of the Ipswich goalkeeper, Richard Wright, the Aston Villa midfielder, Lee Hendrie, and the Leicester forward, Emile Heskey, means a weakened England side will face the Czech Republic at Portman Road on Tuesday.

"We have lost those three lads for exactly the right reasons," he said. "Winning matches is obviously important but our whole purpose in being is to prepare players to be senior internationals."

Houllier horror has no defence

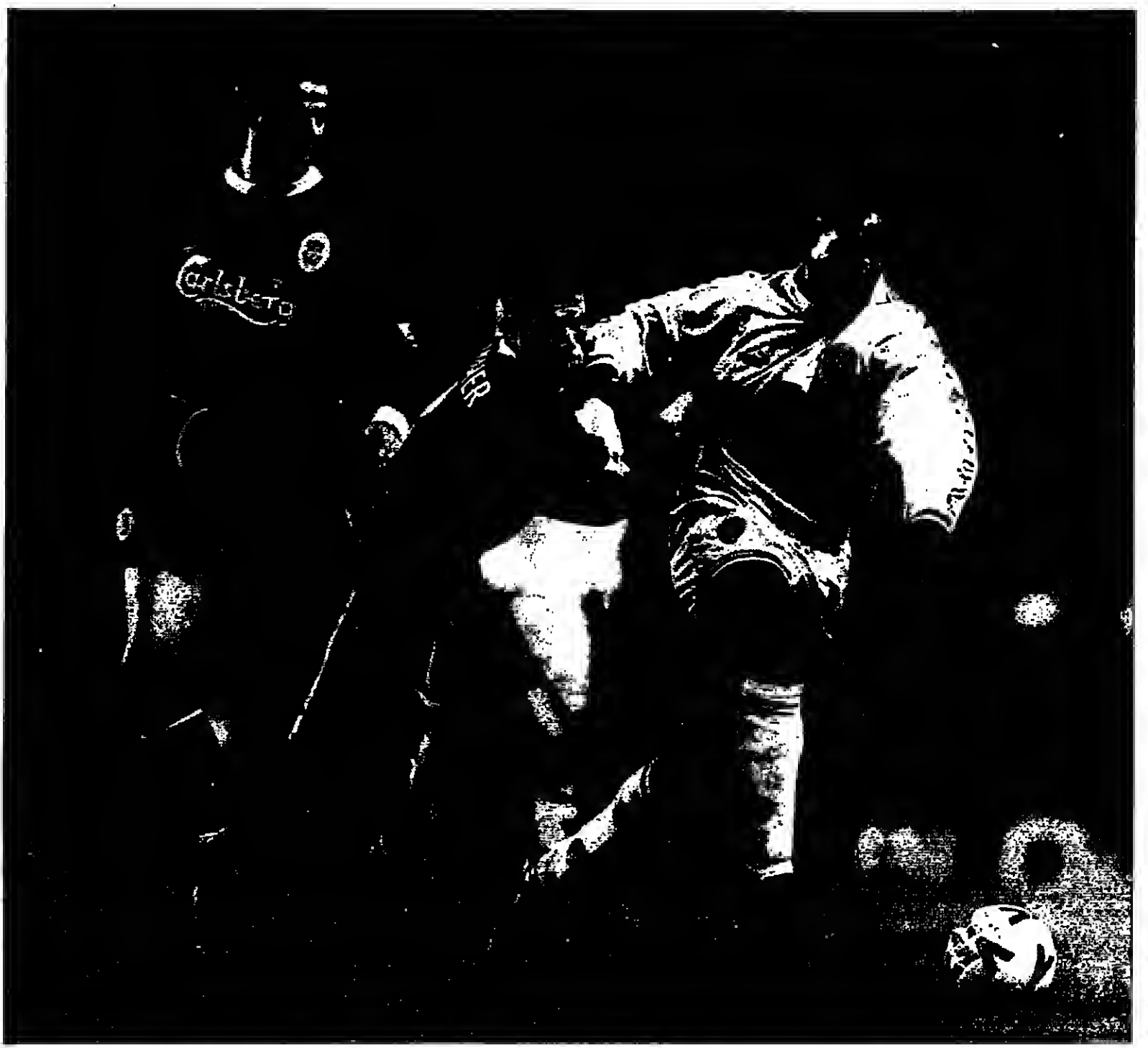
THERE WERE two portents on the walk from Stanley Park. Over a caption "the Liverpool defence" a fanzine had empty space while a man selling replicas of the famous sign in the players' tunnel "This is Anfield" was having to offer free posters with them to get trade.

Both provided an apt commentary on what would follow. Liverpool's back four disappeared in the last 15 minutes while the notion that coming to Anfield is an intimidating experience was laid low by the third home defeat in eight days. The team were giving things away, too. Goals.

The last remnant of the old Boot Room was removed when Roy Evans left last week and the surviving traces of Liverpool as a football power in the Premiership are being eradicated almost by the match. Managers used to come into Anfield's press room to talk about awakening nightmares but never were they talking about the team in red. Gérard Houllier gave the impression of a team so fragile they shatter at the slightest knock.

"I thought it was a penalty," the Liverpool manager said of Leeds' first goal which began with Jonathan Woodgate bringing down David Thompson at the other end of the pitch. "It was a decision which changed the face of the game. We are too frail mentally and that goal killed us. We just didn't have the legs after that."

Too frail? Didn't have the legs? Contrary to popular legend, Liverpool teams had



Jimmy Hasselbaink, the scorer of two of Leeds' three goals, attempts to escape the challenge of Liverpool's Jamie Carragher

bad decisions at Anfield before but they fought furiously to put them right with goals of their own. Tommy Smith or Graeme Souness did not disappear to feel sorry for themselves, they took on more responsibility. It was a trick for the eyes but they seemed to get bigger.

Not this Liverpool. One goal and they went in piccos so that by the end Leeds looked capable of scoring on every attack. This a team, note, who had five players aged 21 playing, who had not won away in the Premiership, and who were so uncowed by travelling to Anfield they used an ambitious 3-4-3 formation.

They will not be the only ones to fancy their chances in the former citadel.

Everyone in the Premiership knows a high ball into the area will have Liverpool flapping and while they persist in playing full-backs who are defensively suspect they are unlikely to stop that danger at source even if they do unearth a commanding centre-back.

Houllier also pondered why the team could not stretch to 90 minutes what they do for 70, which is an easy one. Their central midfield, Paul Ince and Jamie Redknapp, simply run out of fuel at that point which is partly why Liverpool concede late goals. When Leeds got their third on Saturday both

were 60 yards behind the scorer, Jimmy Hasselbaink.

Ince, "the Guvnor", is declining at an alarming rate. No longer able to surge forward with the same urgency of his Manchester United days, he nevertheless did a good job for Liverpool tidying up play in front of the back four in his first season but appears to have lost even that in recent matches. On Saturday he barely won a 50-50

challenge and if the referee had seen his flick at David Hopkin he might have dragged his already atrocious disciplinary record deeper into disrepute.

According to Houllier, Gallagher did not notice much, complaining that fouls instigated Leeds' first two goals but even though he was probably right it does not condone his defenders who resembled funkeys ushering a dignitary on

as Harry Kewell and Hasselbaink ran at them. If you cannot cope when you are counter-attacked then you are always going to be in trouble.

Liverpool will not want to remember any of the goals but you suspect Leeds' first will linger in the mind of Alan Smith. Just 18, he would have been with the England youth team in Israel but for the international tensions in the Mid-

die East and with his first touch after coming on as substitute he calmly placed the ball into the corner of the net. His father was there to watch it too.

As for the visitors' opener that had Liverpool willing file flowers, the Leeds manager, David O'Leary, saw nothing wrong. "Give me a break," he said.

"If they are claiming that as a penalty they are in a sad state."

Robson paying the price for errant Gascoigne

THE MOST significant contribution Paul Gascoigne made on Saturday was when he gave away a penalty, and although occasional touches showed why he might still make some future England team, it was the moments such as the unnecessary kick at Keith Jones eight minutes before half-time that stood out in his performance.

Gascoigne's manager, Bryan Robson, had excuses ready, as if he really still needs to explain why a man with such big problems might still be struggling so soon after emerging from so short a period of rehabilitation.

He said his errant midfielder had taken a knock on the calf early in the first half and it had troubled him until his substitution at half-time. He also refused to blame his player for kicking Jones, saying those kind of incidents "happen all the time."

But then someone asked the Boro manager, "Did you miss Gascoigne in the second half?" His response spoke volumes. "That's a hypothetical question," Robson answered. "How do you know whether you're going to miss him or not?" he said. Instead of the usual "you

O'Neill made to reflect upon decision to stay

THIS WAS Leicester's first defeat in 10 matches, a spell that Martin O'Neill insists has more to do with his players' attitude than his own decision to remain at Filbert Street instead of moving to Leeds. But the sight of Leicester struggling to compensate for the absence of the injured Emile Heskey would be enough to make any ambitious manager yearn for a chance at a wealthier club, and the chances are that O'Neill is still waking up in the middle of the night with David O'Leary's smile imprinted on his mind.

On Saturday O'Neill also felt obliged to leave the rejuvenated but recently injured Tony Cottee on the bench at his former club. In attack he paired the reserve striker Graham Fenton with another Hamsters fan, Muzzy Izet, who must be wondering if he, too, needs a move to a bigger club to earn wider recognition for his work in midfield after being overlooked again by the England coach, Glenn Hoddle.

Thanks to West Ham's own defensive deficiencies as much as anything else, with Neil Roddick suspended and Rio Ferdinand looking about as safe as

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SPORT

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The misery piles up on Merseyside

THE DEPRESSION hanging over football on Merseyside continues to be shared. After Liverpool's defeat at the hands of Leeds on Saturday, Everton's troubles deepened with a result that leaves them fourth from bottom of the Premiership with only two points from their last five matches.

Goals by Stephen Froggatt, Darren Huckerby and Noel Whelan elevated Everton to 15th place and with the £2.5m Norwegian striker Rune Lange reportedly on his way there is reason for optimism at Highfield Road, or at least to believe Gordon Strachan has arrested the recent decline.

After the loss of Dion Dublin to Aston Villa, it seemed things might rapidly turn sour for a side that began the season with European ambitions but two wins in two matches since their top scorer's departure suggests they can manage quite nicely without him.

Gérard Houllier may consider he has a job on his hands at Anfield but at least, unlike Everton's Walter Smith, he has not yet blown his cash. The former Rangers manager has spent more than £21m since his arrival at Goodison Park in the summer, yet so far Everton look no less likely to struggle than last season, when only a point against Coventry on the final day clinched their survival.

Enjoying no shortage of possession, Smith felt they might have squeezed something from yesterday's match. But if Coventry had a weapon unavailable to Everton it was the electrifying pace possessed in large measure not only by the front-line partnership of Huckerby and Whelan but also by Stephen Froggatt on the left flank.

Football has not been altogether kind to the 25-year-old winger unveiled by Graham Taylor at Aston Villa seven years ago. After moving

BY JON CULLEY

Coventry City	3
Everton	0

to Wolves in 1994 he appeared to be fixed, suffering serious illness and then one injury problem after another. But his switch to Highfield Road six weeks ago offers a chance to relaunch his career.

Yesterday's goal, his first for his new club, will be a candidate for goal of the month. Chasing a clever pass out of defence by Roger Nilsson, Froggatt carried the ball a good 40 yards, leaving a pack of Everton pursuers well behind. Approaching the 18-yard line, he had the option to pass inside to Huckerby but chose

pull-back invited his team-mate to score from close range but Myhre brought off a stop of equal merit to save from Gary McAllister close to half-time.

The killer blow for Everton came three minutes into the second period when pace again was the yellow-shirted visitors' enemy. Froggatt turned provider this time, his precise, driven pass finding Huckerby darting into the Everton penalty area. The Coventry striker's touch and finish were of the highest order.

Everton, with an injured Bakayoko giving way to Danny Cadamarteri, tried manfully to find a way back into the contest but, with McAllister more effective in midfield than his Scotland colleague John Collins, Coventry always looked the more likely source of more goals.

Myhre produced another excellent save to keep out a Froggatt volley and Whelan missed a golden chance 10 minutes from the end, hitting one effort straight into Myhre's body and scooping the rebound over the crossbar.

But Whelan enjoyed the last laugh, sliding the ball home in stoppage time after David Unsworth - one of three Everton players cautioned - had intercepted Huckerby's effort on the line after another lightning break from defence.

"It was not our worst performance but the second goal allowed Coventry to sit back and attack on the break," Smith said.

Goals: Froggatt (16) 1-0; Huckerby (48) 2-0; Whelan (90) 3-0.
Coventry City (4-4-3): Hedman; Nilsson, Williams, Shaw, Edwards; Taylor, Clement, McAllister; Froggatt, Huckerby, Whelan. Substitutes used: Unsworth, Bunting, Roberts, Shilton, Orlowski (66), Unsworth (3-3-2); Myhre, Short, Matczak, Unsworth, Odum (46), Grant, Nicholson, Collins, Bakayoko (Cadamarteri, 56), Ferguson, Substitutes not used: Watson, Durrin, Simonson (67).

Referee: G. Poll (Hing). Bookings: Coventry: Huckerby; Unsworth; Bakayoko, Matczak. Notes of the match: Froggatt. Attendance: 19,230.

INSIDE

The 38-year-old David Falgout was Leigh's hero after denying Keegan's Fulham Page 24

instead to unleash a left-foot shot that ripped into the far corner of the Everton net.

In a half of open football, Everton should have replied with a goal of their own but their failure to do so perhaps reflected the same frailty of confidence as is afflicting Liverpool. Chances fell to Tony Grant, Duncan Ferguson, who sent a good heading chance wide from Don Hutchison's corner, and to the frustrating Ibrahim Bakayoko, at £4.5m Smith's costliest signing, whose tendency to try to beat one defender too many is a habit he must curb.

A fine save from Magnus Hedman denied Grant what looked sure to be an equaliser after Alex Cleland's



Duncan Ferguson, in a rare moment of Everton ascendancy, rises above Coventry's Paul Williams at Highfield Road

Injured Shearer out of England squad

ALAN SHEARER has been forced out of England's squad for Wednesday night's friendly match against the Czech Republic at Wembley because of a hamstring injury.

The England captain suffered the damage during the first half of Newcastle United's 1-1 draw with Sheffield Wednesday at St James' Park on Saturday and he took no part after the interval.

Newcastle's manager, Ruud Gullit, cast doubt over Shearer's availability for England immediately after the match, saying: "If he couldn't play

BY MARK BURTON

here, he won't be able to play for England."

United have denied that there is any rift between Shearer and Gullit after reports that the two disagreed over the injury.

Shearer was the only player not expected to meet up with the rest of Glenn Hoddle's squad, but there are doubts over Paul Scholes, who suffered a similar injury after scoring twice during Manchester United's 3-2 victory over Blackburn Rovers, and

Leicester's Emile Heskey. He missed his side's 3-2 defeat at West Ham United after picking up an ankle problem during the Worthington Cup victory over Leeds United in midweek.

The Football Association's spokesman, Steve Double, said the injured players would be examined by England's medical staff before any withdrawals are announced.

"We are expecting everybody down with the exception of Alan Shearer, who's having a scan on his injured hamstring in Newcastle in the morning and will be in touch

with Glenn after that," Double said.

Hoddle is already without the injured Liverpool striker, Michael Owen, for the friendly against the Czech Republic, and Shearer's absence will force him into a re-think his attack. Dion Dublin, who continued his spectacular start at Aston Villa, with a hat-trick at Southampton on Saturday, is one alternative as is Owen's club-mate, Robbie Fowler, who scored a penalty in Liverpool's 3-1 home defeat by Leeds, is another. Ian Wright, still scoring after his move from Arsenal to

West Ham, could also come into the reckoning.

Reports put Scholes's injury down to the Old Trafford pitch, which has cut up over the last two or three games and is being relaid ahead of United's next home match with Leeds in a fortnight's time.

Gareth Southgate is expected to join up with Hoddle's squad, but his arrival could be delayed because he wishes to attend the birth of his first child. The Aston Villa defender expects to arrive at Bisham Abbey this afternoon after his wife, Alison, has given birth.

Villa have a club record four players in the squad, with Southgate joined by Paul Merson, Dion Dublin and Lee Hendrie.

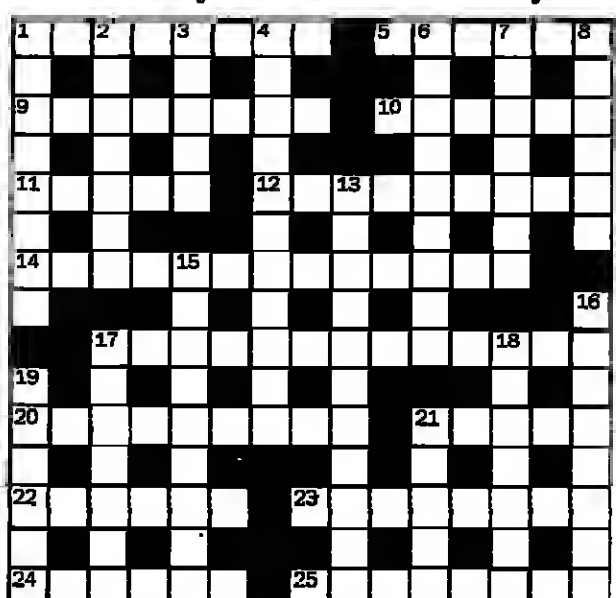
The FA chairman, Keith Wiseman, says there is "nothing wrong or unusual" about the FA providing financial help to the Football Association of Wales. Wiseman has pledged a £3.2m grant to the hard-up FAW spread over eight years is adamant that such assistance is "commonplace."

Wiseman admits his actions are "still being discussed inside the FA" but hopes the matter will be "resolved quickly".

THE MONDAY CROSSWORD

No. 3769, Monday 16 November

By Portia



ACROSS

- 1 Appropriate position taken by a cricketer (8)
- 5 Girl's bias about being single at first (6)
- 9 Rocket fuel's function (8)
- 10 Make a mess of giving bribe to the Continental (6)
- 11 New look given to northern Scottish town (5)
- 12 Time's wasted - press in at once (9)
- 14 Having sound Conservative principles (5-8)
- 17 Sculpted little horse so it's naturally decorative (13)
- 20 Emerge carrying drink left for Greek guy (9)
- 21 Sea-monster in the Aegean (5)
- 22 Obtain pass (4, 2)
- 23 Not in agreement about Navy bonus (8)
- 24 Initially reduced money spent on essential seed

DOWN

- 2 Skin product's open and three-quarters full (8)
- 3 Go after popular supporter on foot (8)
- 4 Against being involved in kind of relief work? (7)
- 6 Key point admitted by a German bloke (5)
- 8 Start Hugo off with it directly (3, 3)
- 11 Special unit loses force-recruits needed (9)
- 13 Original scientific theory presented in important report (3, 4)
- 15 We hear person conducting vocal music (6)
- 16 Serve with one chap on executive (1, 1)
- 17 Revolutionary platform? (9)
- 18 European banker investing rest in plant (8)
- 19 Victory for one about to outwit Henry (7)
- 20 Not tipped to last for ever (7)
- 21 Fellow since joining intelligence agency's board (6)
- 22 City you can see from Golgotha I fancy (5)

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Call for Hick signals concern

ENGLAND YESTERDAY underlined their concern for Michael Atherton's long-standing back problem by rushing out Graeme Hick to provide cover before Friday's first Test in Brisbane.

Atherton is still regarded as England's most influential player. Down Under despite stepping down as captain last winter and speculation about the extent of his injury began when he did not take the field during the Queensland innings in the current warm-up game.

Both the England coach, David Lloyd, and the physio, Wayne Morton, attempted to make light of the complaint, but admitted it was "a worry" with the first Test imminent. Hick was contacted promptly and will join the rest of the squad in Brisbane on Wednesday.

The surprise phone call from the chairman of selectors, David Graveney, represents the latest in a long line of second chances for the prolific but enigmatic Worcestershire batsman. He was placed on standby for the Ashes tour after narrowly miss-

CRICKET

ing out to John Crawley in the selection for the 17-man party.

Hick, who scored a century against Sri Lanka on his last Test appearance in August, said: "Although as stand-by I knew something like this could happen, the call came as a surprise, but a nice one all the same."

"I know I'm going out as cover just in case any other injury doubts crop up and at the moment I don't know how long I'll be with the squad. But however long I'm there, it will be nice practising outdoors in the cold of an English winter."

But the speed of the call to Worcester indicates the need of the selectors to provide an insurance policy for their most respected and feared batsman - even if Graveney attempted to shrug off the importance.

"Michael's back condition is well-documented and there is no suggestion at this stage that he will be forced out of the tour through injury," he said. Atherton faces early exit, page 19

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THE INDEPENDENT

16 November 1998

MONDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

He's rich. He has goals in life. And for the price of a video, he'll put you to sleep. But despite his dazzling talents, Paul McKenna couldn't bake a Victoria sponge to save his life



THE DEBORAH ROSS INTERVIEW

Paul McKenna, the world's most popular hypnotist, and multi-millionaire, lives in one of those fabulously expensive little mews jobs just off High Street Kensington. Certainly, it's the sort of place I'd choose to live, if I had his lucrative talent, and could make people think they're Elvis Presley, instead of having no talent whatsoever, beyond being able to make people bored which, yes, has rightly earned me a rubbish house nowhere near Kensington and an ever-dwindling number of party invites. Still, pecker up. I have great hopes for my self-help, audio tape - *Boredom Power!* - which, I've been assured, might sell very nicely if it sells at all.

Paul himself answers the door. He is wearing an Armani shirt and designer specs. He is quite slight. His hair is quite thin. He has rather weak, woody features. He looks very much like the DJ from Enfield he once was. He looks like he might dance as badly as your dad at parties. He is 34. His mother, Joan, is a home economics teacher who, yes, makes good Victoria sponges. He can not make Victoria sponges, he says. Or any other kind of cake? "Um. No. Absolutely not." "No. Biscuits? No. Are you acquainted with the rubbing-in technique?" "NO!" Would it be fair to say, Paul, that you're not much interested in home baking? "IT WOULD!" Is that confession on or off the record, Paul? He says he doesn't mind if it's on. I ask if he's finding this interview quite boring so far. He yawns. So you are, then? "Oh, no, no, no," he quickly protests. "It's just that I only got back from New York an hour ago. I'm jet-lagged. Knackered." Rock cakes? "NO!"

He lives mainly in New York now, he explains. He's got an apartment there, and a new girlfriend, a television presenter who "is very nice". America is a good place to be based, he says, because of all the Ricki's and Montels and Jerry Springers. "Do those shows," he says with some glee, "and you can promote your products, shift tons of tapes." He thinks *Kidz* is rubbish. "It's. Tell me, has anyone here ever had a parking ticket?" He isn't keen on Los Angeles, either. "I lived there once for four months, and didn't make a friend. Everyone is so into the business. It's like, you go out for dinner, and someone asks for the noise to be turned down, because it's annoying Tom Selleck's brother." I say that when I go out for dinner, people ask for me to be turned down, because I'm just so annoyingly dull. He says: "Don't you think you're being a little hard on yourself?" I say, peppermint creams? Everyone can make peppermint creams, can't they? He says: "NO! NO! NO!" But, he adds, he can make a cup of tea. Cup of tea? "Please."

So we trot down the mustard-yellow, colour-washed hall, to the kitchen. And wow! Hand-made cabinets. Dazzlingly shiny, marbled surfaces. Lots of equally dazzling, stainless steel, gadgety things. What's the point of all this, I ask, if you can't even do peppermint creams? He says: "My former fiancée designed it. She did cook." We take our tea up to the living room. The living room is very plush, with gold wallpaper, big, fat, swaggy curtains and big, fat sofas which don't look as if anyone has ever sat on them. I say the room seems more rich, old grandmother than thrusting, superstar performer, up there with Cilla when it comes to TV ratings. He says the decor is, actually, the previous owners'. "I thought he was a really tasteful guy, so I kept it." So, in short, Paul's a bloke who doesn't mind living with other people's taste.

Certainly, his own personality doesn't seem to be stamped anywhere. Perhaps he just doesn't have much of a personality to stamp. He has done a lot of work on himself over the years, and is evangelical about the benefits of self-hypnosis which, he says, has taken him from a puny under-achiever who, at school, was told he'd never amount to anything, to the focused stage and telly star he is today. He goes on to talk a lot about "targets" and "goals". He says that



Paul McKenna, hypnoti...zzzzzz

there was this study once, of a group of Yale students, 3 per cent of whom were found to have specific goals while the rest didn't. "And, when they were followed up years later, the 3 per cent had made more money than the other 97 per cent put together!" He adds that the first step towards achieving a goal is to visualise what it would feel like to achieve it. He says that when he started out in the business he visualised "a nice house, with me standing outside, smiling". Trouble is, I don't think he ever visualised how he would live in that house. Perhaps if you have too many targets and goals, there simply isn't room for much of a self. Anyway, what goal does he visualise now? "To get married, have children, be more successful." Aren't you successful enough? "By successful, I don't mean more of what I have. I mean more enriching experiences, more enriching travels, meet more interesting people, contribute more to the world." He can seem quite fetchingly earnest at times.

Still, I wonder about this "goals" business. Don't you have to be a control freak to either pull it off, or think you can? Is Paul a control freak? Possibly. Indeed, the one personal touch I do detect in his house is, bizarrely, the Post-It note stuck to the underside of the loo seat that says: "Down! Do you consider yourself a control freak, Paul? I do like to be in control, yes. Are you? Certainly, I reply. I'm so in control that if I say, 'Right, I'm not drinking tonight', I'll have just

six bottles of wine then add, "What I meant was, I'm not drinking more than six bottles tonight". Paul laughs playfully. Then says: "I can be spontaneous too, you know. The other day some friends rang to see if I'd go skiing with them and I said yes, even though I've never been skiing before."

Perhaps it's this control thing that makes him so brilliant at what he does. Although I've never much gone in for his TV shows - *The Hypnotic World of Paul McKenna*, *The Paranormal World of Paul McKenna* - I did see him live on stage once, and he was terrifically good, making people think they were electrical appliances or Elvis and all that. And, of course, up on stage he is totally in control. Of everybody. Anyway, he'll be returning to the London stage in February, after a break of three years and the court case in which one of his stage volunteers (Christopher Gates) attempted to sue Paul for turning him into a schizophrenic. Gates lost the case. But can hypnotism ever be dangerous? "That's like asking if communication in itself can be dangerous. Or a hammer. It depends whose using it, and with what intent. But, still, I would say, no, it isn't. Over 500,000 people have been stage hypnotised in this country, and there have only ever been 25 complaints." And? "None of them were ever upheld. Apart, that is, from the woman who fell off the stage and broke her leg."

Paul was born and raised in Enfield, north London. His father, John, was a builder, while

his mother was, interestingly, a home-economics teacher. Scotch pancakes? "NO! Look, I can just about open a can of beans, OK?" Paul grew up not liking himself very much. "I didn't feel attractive. I didn't think nice things about myself. I didn't have rewarding goals." He worried about his looks. "You know, big nose." He went to a Jesuit school which he hated. "We were beaten with sticks and belts. I was told I'd never amount to anything." He retreated into music, then left school at 16 to become a DJ, ending up hosting a breakfast show for a commercial station in Bedfordshire. One morning, he had a professional hypnotist on the show. The hypnotist put Paul into a trance. "And it was just the most amazing feeling." This ignited his interest.

He read all he could on the subject, then started practising on family, friends and the boy next door, who came round on the eve of his biology O level, to say he was never going to pass, could Paul help? Paul put him in a trance, telling him he would remember everything he had ever been told in his biology lessons. The boy went on to fail all his O levels bar biology. "He got an A!" In 1987 he put a small show on in a pub in Cambridge. The next year, he filled the Dubs of York's Theatre in London. Today, he can sell out the Albert Hall.

He no longer, he says, feels inadequate on any level. The combination of success, self-hypnosis and defining goals means: "I feel a lot

Continued on page 8

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Lessons of war?

Sir: I would like to point out the irony of your front page showing a picture of the Queen laying a wreath to commemorate Armistice Day, and underneath a headline announcing intention to strike against Iraq (12 November).

Is there anything to equal the hypocrisy of our government? They seem to have forgotten why they wear their poppies. We remember the millions of dead men because they died without reason, to satisfy the vanity of a few powerful men. Proposing to repeat this horror 80 years on seems a little odd.

My history teacher says history is so important because it gives us a chance to learn from other people's mistakes. Perhaps our world leaders should take his advice.
ELLEN COLLINS
Chelmsford, Essex

Sir: So Iraq might be bombed because it has, or is suspected of having, weapons of mass destruction? If this doctrine is to be generally applied, the citizens of not a few countries, including our own, should begin an urgent examination of their air-raid shelters.
HOWARD CHENEY
Shipton on Stour, Warwickshire

Sir: Tim Field (letters, 13 November) should make up his mind. Either the Great War soldiers executed for cowardice were guilty, in which case a pardon (forgiveness for a wrong committed) is appropriate, or they were innocent, in which case a pardon (by confirming their guilt) would be a further slur on their reputations. Which does he want?

Incidentally, how does he know all the details of each case to determine innocence of the executed, and malice of the prosecutors and judges, when the records are so sketchy?
KEVIN LOGAN
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

Nicaraguan plight

Sir: The media seems to have deserted Nicaragua. Is this because President Alemán claims there is no need to declare a state of emergency, and can even turn away medical aid, when it comes from communist Cuba ("Slowly, a future emerges from sea of mud", 13 November)?

Is it because the eloquent pleas of the Nicaraguan ambassador in London have fallen silent? So everything's all right, then?

No, it is not. As a group, we have family, friends, colleagues in five different areas of Nicaragua, all devastated by Hurricane Mitch. They tell of local fields drowned in water or buried by landslides; peasants burying their lives on mud of decomposing bodies; 720 Indians whose SOS from the overcrowded river Coco was picked up by British aircraft carriers, but who had disappeared when the helicopters flew over.

These accounts flesh out the wider statistics - economic activity in half the country wiped out; 70 per cent of the national infrastructure destroyed.

Let's not be put off by silly politicians' pride. Nicaragua's disaster is not over. All the hurricane-hit countries need our attention. Aid should, and must, get to them all, fairly channelled and distributed by the charities of the Disaster Emergency Committee.
JANE FREELAND
Southampton Latin America Network (Slant)
Southampton

Cannabis on trial

Sir: It is morally wrong to withhold proven medical treatment from patients. The great debate is whether cannabis is proven to be medically useful.

Further clinical trials, which the Government requires, are unnecessary because if there was a debilitating side-effect then 2000 years of medical usage would have made it apparent ("Cannabis is 'safer than drinking'", 13 November). Anecdotal and

historic evidence proves the superiority of herbal cannabis in the treatment of MS, epilepsy and many other diseases.

Cannabis treatment is withheld because the pharmaceutical companies will not make money from a common plant. If cannabis is God's gift to the sick then it is our duty to make sure they can legally obtain it.

In the past cannabis has been targeted as a menace and a threat to society; now the media should champion the cause of those who undergo persecution because of a quirk in the law.
DAVID RYAN
Kettle College, Oxford

Sir: The Government's timid response to the Lords committee recommendation on medicinal use of cannabis highlights why we have little hope of reversing the terrible effects of dangerous drugs use.

If the Government is serious about reducing drugs use and the crime it causes, the campaign needs a dose of radical honesty. All the efforts of the past 50 years have been based on the demonising of any substance that isn't legal - hardly the approach to influence young people.

The narcotic debate is still based on the 1920s approach that was based on grounds of morality and deviance. Even the most dim-witted teenager will identify that alcohol is easily as culpable on these grounds, yet enjoys legal and taxable status.

Drugs use has to be tackled primarily on grounds of health risks and should target those substances that are demonstrably addictive or fatal and are at least more dangerous than alcohol or tobacco.

If you apply this test to existing proscribed substances many will fall despite over half a century of effort to link them to the proven effects of narcotics like heroin and cocaine.

With their big majority, there is no excuse for the Government not to raise the level of debate on drugs.
DAN WILLIAMS
Southend-on-Sea, Essex

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Movie Time No 1: A rapid response officer patrols the perimeter wall of HMP Whitemoon, a high-security prison in Cambridgeshire, in the first of our series marking Prisoners Week
John Voos

Genetic research

Sir: As a geneticist involved in medical research, I was appalled to read your story "Scientists create a cow-human hybrid" (report, 13 November).

Firstly, a hybrid was not created as the embryo contained only human DNA (a hybrid must contain DNA from at least two species). Secondly, and most importantly, the aim of the research conducted by Dr Cibelli was misinterpreted, creating a cloned human being has never been on the cards. The aim of research in this area is to be able to produce human tissue grown from the patient's own cells. For instance, DNA from burns victims could be used to grow skin cells for grafts that would not be rejected.

The public must be informed of advances in genetic research - we have a potentially huge ethical dilemma on our hands. However, creating the image that medical research is secretly producing a genetic Frankenstein monster is misleading and wrong. In the most part, medical research is exactly that - advances in medicine which

are hopefully extremely beneficial.

To stop genetics snowballing out of control, it is essential to have a well-informed public; a misinformed public can do nothing.
JENNIFER REGAN
Hove, Sussex

Homework futility

Sir: The Government's latest big idea, homework contracts ("Parents asked to sign pledge on homework", 11 November), smells very strongly of the ill-starred back-to-basics campaign which earned Mr Major so much well-merited ridicule.

It is as if something in the rarefied air of Whitehall prevents each new administration from remembering the follies of its predecessors, so that the same piece of nonsense emerges again and again.

Serious educators have long realised that compulsory homework serves no bankable educational purpose. If it came into being in imitation of the public schools, which required pupils to prepare the next day's Latin or Greek construe.

Nowadays it merely serves to restrict the time in which children can play when they come home from school. Adults tend to see this as a good thing, because they don't understand that play is the proper activity of children and contributes far more to their mental and intellectual health than study does.

Compulsory schooling tends to fail because it refuses to acknowledge that valuable learning only happens when a person, adult or child, freely chooses his study and willingly commits himself to it.

You cannot legislate for that commitment, and if a child has not made it when you impose homework on him or her all the signing of contracts and minatory finger-wagging in the world will not make the exercise worthwhile.
CHRISTOPHER R SHUTE
Education Now,
Polesworth,
Staffordshire

Clean sweep

Sir: The piece by Hettie Judah in your newspaper (Irritations of modern life: Dysons, 11

November) was factually incorrect.

In a bag vacuum cleaner, dust particles quickly clog the pores, thereby blocking the airflow. Because the air is blocked, the cleaner's suction is quickly reduced, and the cleaner is not very effective.

Dyson cleaners have no bag to clog and this is the reason that they maintain constant suction. All other cleaners drop way below the Dyson's suction, so much so that after just one or two rooms they can have lost half their suction, and continue to drop until a new bag is fitted - at least a month away. This is why 76 per cent of people buy a Dyson vacuum cleaner, after recommendation from a Dyson user.

You make an incorrect comparison between the cost of bags and filters. Dyson has replaced the bag with two cyclones. All vacuum cleaners use filters; for the DC02 we recommend filters are changed every three months, an average annual cost of £20, not £37. We have now developed vacuum cleaners that need one filter changed every year at a cost of £10.
JAMES DYSON
Dyson Appliances,
Malmesbury, Wiltshire

Old-age burden

Sir: I M McNeill (letter, 12 November) may as well resign himself to being a burden. If he is still working when his state pension starts he will find the state severely discourage his efforts.

For every £2 earned above a fairly modest level of pension income he will lose £1 from his state pension. Since he will be paying probably 23p in the pound tax on his earnings he will effectively be taxed at 73 per cent.

When I was 65 I decided that I would work part-time until I was 70 - health permitting. I have become so discouraged that at 68 I have pretty much given up trying.
MRL HUDDY
Milford, Surrey

Emotional health

Sir: I and many of my clinical colleagues admit to growing weary of Professor Anthony Clare's "analyses" of complex human problems in tabloid terms, the latest of which knocks off male sexuality in a couple of columns ("Idle, sad and baffled by sex. What's wrong with men?", 14 November) around the relatively bland thesis "the union of one man and one woman is the sensible way for heterosexual men".

Clare's tendency to generalise omits a central, defining feature of male and female sexuality. Namely, that the fulfilment or otherwise of our sexual identity is bound inextricably to the fate and quality of our relationships with others, and this begins in infancy. Sexuality has its roots in biology but expresses itself most deeply and fully through the capacity for sustained intimacy, which is a psychological accomplishment. Clare appears to conceive of men and women as barely related species fraught with incomprehension.

A capacity to relate in depth to either sex is a prerequisite for emotional and sexual health.

More on people, less on penises, please, Professor.
DR PAUL WILLIAMS
London N3

Sir: Professors Gunn and Mann have stated with admirable clarity their liberal approach to diagnosis and treatment under the 1983 Mental Health Act (letters, 12 November).

I take their point that few experts care for the term "psychopath" but, unfortunately, it is enshrined in that Act.

They note that the Act (with its attendant safeguards) "calls for treatment in hospital against the patient's will in appropriate circumstances if it is necessary for the health or safety of the patient, or for the protection of others persons". They clearly believe that they can provide such treatment and so their actions are lawful under the Act.

Suppose, though, that another psychiatrist conscientiously believes that a particular (unconvicted) disordered person is untreatable. Surely, therefore, compulsory detention of that person would be outwith the Act, unlawful and equivalent to internment without trial?

I would welcome clarifications from the Home Secretary that this was not what he was suggesting.
P K BURGESS
Psychology Department,
University of Dundee

Democracy distorted

Sir: Kenneth Starr used many millions of public monies to try to get rid of Bill Clinton. Tony Blair is using his temporary ownership of the Labour Party and all the party's resources to promote the satraps and sycophants so necessary to maintaining him in office.

Both are distortions of the democratic process; both are destructive of democracy.

The American people were not taken in and showed it at the ballot box. UK citizens will not accept the closed list, but they will not have the freedom of the ballot to reject it.
IAN CAMPBELL
Borth,
Cardiganshire

Ties in a bind

Sir: Why have men's ties become so boring? Husband and son-in-law have asked for more ties like their favourites: lovely swirly abstract patterns in subtle colours which always draw compliments.

All one can get now - anywhere is repetitive ostriches or miserable little geometrical designs looking as though they have all been done on a computer - which they probably have.

Is it all part of the fast food culture, or are there no artists left in the fabric industry? Or is it just that most men are boring?
MARGARET DUGGAN
London SW11

IN BRIEF

declares war on Labour "Daleks". (11 November), I feel that the correspondents have misunderstood its meaning: Tony Blair is the man and he has the vote.
MARK AUSTIN
Morden, Surrey

Sir: The Minister for Trade and Industry John Birtle's efforts to promote wind power (letter, 14 November) leave me unconvinced. Whatever happened to wave power?
ELLIS MILES
Stamford, Lincolnshire

Sir: Equipment to apply sand to the rails was provided on the London trams and will be used

on the new Croydon Tramlink. Similarly, all stream engines were built with sanders, as were, more recently, the Eurostars. Why then are very many other trains so inadequately equipped today to cope with fallen leaves?
VIC MITCHELL
Midhurst,
West Sussex

Sir: Will you please explain just what in the monitoring process described in your sensationalist headlined front-page article ("Revealed: Labour 'dirty tricks' to undermine the Lib Dems", 13 November) constitutes anything remotely resembling a "dirty trick"?
TOM CORLETT
London EAS

Seeking Islamic truth beneath the golden arches

HOW WELL do you follow the news? As you sit there glazed in front of your newspaper or double glazed in front of the telly, how much do you actually take in and digest?

Well, here's your chance to test yourself: Here are eight news stories from the last week. One is true, or as true as news ever gets. Which one is it? Lay your bets now!

1. Deceived by the prevalence of warm weather well into autumn, swallows and swifts were still last week flying around two or three south-facing villages in Pembroke. Afraid that the sudden onset of freezing weather would kill them off, the local bird protection society captured them and sent them off by road to their winter home in Egypt. The lorry driver who was taking them reckoned that

when he got to the warm south of Italy he was near enough to their destination, and released them so they could fly the rest of the way. They have now reappeared in Pembroke. There is no sign of the lorry driver.

2. In the lead-up to his 50th birthday, among the other packages received by Prince Charles was a delivery from Social Security addressed to Charles Windsor. It noted that according to their figures the recipient had not worked at a regular employment for many years, but nor had he claimed any unemployment benefit either. They would therefore be sending a representative round very soon to see if Mr Windsor needed any care, counselling or, indeed, cash.

3. To celebrate the 80th anniversary of the end of the First

World War, a group of nonagenarian British ex-servicemen from the north of England decided to get together with a group of their German counterparts who had also fought in the Great War. They met on neutral territory, in Belgium, and the dinner was going fine until one of the veteran German ex-soldiers joked that it was only a matter of time before Belgium was recaptured for Germany. Scuffling broke out and a general fight erupted in the course of which one of the English veterans had a heart attack and died. The Germans are now claiming this as another casualty to be added to Great War statistics.

4. An intruder at Prince Charles's house, Highgrove, was chased by dogs and security guards last week, though in an organic sort of way, before being caught. He

turned out to be a social worker from Social Security following up a letter about Mr Charles Windsor's

long-term unemployment, which had been sent to him but never answered.

5. The reason that France, China, and Russia are taking Saddam Hussein's side against the Americans and British is nothing to do with politics, or military power. It is a cultural one. The French, Chinese and Russians bitterly resent having been subject to colonisation by American junk food and junk fashion, and have noticed that Baghdad is one of the last remaining major cities in the world not disfigured by McDonald's food joints or Coca-Colaisation. They would like to help Saddam Hussein keep it that way.

6. One of the major hits in the American Latin music scene has been a new single of a song called "Mambo Yo Yo" which means in

Spanish, more or less, "I am Mambo". However, the youth of America have assumed it is all part of the yo-yo craze and made it a best-seller on that mistaken assumption. Yet another illustration that you should never underestimate the gullibility of the American public.

7. Another intruder caught at Highgrove late last week also claimed to be a Social Security emissary following up an unanswered letter about long-term unemployment. When it was pointed out that someone else had already made a call on "Mr Charles Windsor" for this purpose, the new visitor said that she had no interest in him; she was coming to interview Mrs Camilla Parker-Bowles.

8. A new Muslim pressure group called Islamic Truth, which aims to

lobby Western politicians and persuade them to see the Islamic and Arabic point of view, has run into trouble with its chosen logo. It is coloured red and yellow, and looks very like the large M symbol which hovers over all McDonald's food joints. The Muslims have agreed to change the logo in order to avoid wounding the sensitivities of McDonald's executives, who passionately believe in the truth of their burgers, and to avoid rousing the fury of McDonald's Lawyers, the militant wing of McDonald's, who are known to be swift and terrible in their actions.

Picked the item you think was true? That's right! The last one! Isn't that wonderful...? No, I'm sorry. That was just wishful thinking. I'm afraid it was No 6, about the "Mambo Yo Yo" record.



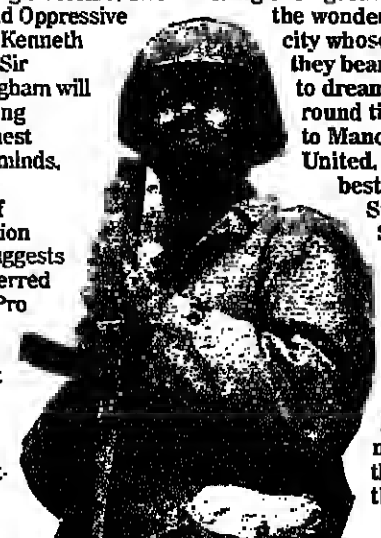
MILES KINGTON
McDonald's lawyers, the militant wing, are known to be swift and terrible in their actions

PANDORA

WHAT HAVE Jacob Rees-Mogg, Jim Davidson and a belly dancer named Asmahan got in common? They will all be present at a ball for the Cities of London and Westminster Conservative Association to be held on 27 November. Sources say that the appearance of a belly dancer at this function has caused Jacob Rees-Mogg, son of Lord Rees-Mogg, some consternation. To Pandora, however, he said "I'm sure it will be a great success," adding somewhat cryptically: "I wouldn't want to be a belly dancer myself." Despite his misgivings about the display of Egyptian dancing to be performed before the Egyptian Ambassador and his wife (who are guests of honour), Mogg will attend the function. "I am assured that it's going to be a very respectable belly dancer," Mogg confided to Pandora. Accompanied, no doubt, by an equally tasteful Jim Davidson.

IN A sight almost as impressive as the D-Day landings themselves, the DreamWorks film company is forcing Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan* to beat a retreat. Despite grossing \$190 million at the box office the film is being pulled from all but two of the 502 locations it was showing at in the US. According to *Entertainment Weekly* this plan will allow DreamWorks to re-release the film in February when the Oscar nominations are announced. But *Private Ryan* will face stiff competition in the Academy Award stakes from *The Truman Show* among others. Like the risky decisions taken by Tom Hanks's character in the film (pictured), perhaps Spielberg's defence-as-the best-form-of-attack will pay off - but at a cost.

"WHEN THE Government carries out the next census it may ditch the old ABC1C2DE [social] classifications," suggests Christine Walker, head of Walker Media. At the annual conference of the Marketing Society this week, Walker will suggest some new categories, including Nipples (New Irish Professionals Living in London) and Sitcoms (Single Income, Two Children and Oppressive Mortgage). Kenneth Clarke and Sir Bernard Ingham will be addressing Britain's finest marketing minds, and for the purposes of categorisation Pandora suggests they be referred to as Pet (Pro European Tory) and Bun (Blunt Unreconstructed Northern) respectively.



IT SEEMS that the strengthened Blair-Ashtown axis has been too much for some Liberal Democrats. During the Party's parliamentary meeting last Wednesday, held after the Blair-Ashtown statement, feisty Lib Dem MP, Dr Jenny Tongue rose to enquire whether her colleagues had lost their bottle over furthering policy aims. The Lib Dems' foreign affairs spokesman, Menzies Campbell, normally a model of restraint, suggested that Dr Tongue "prescribe Viagra" to Paddy's, mostly male, colleagues. A fair suggestion: anything to stiffen the party line.

HOW KIND of the *Daily Telegraph* to give a generous marketing boost to the *Mirror Group's* Docklands freestheet *The Wharf*. The decision of Dan Colson, *Telegraph* chief executive, to ban copies of *The Wharf* from the *Telegraph's* offices has achieved just that. A gleeful story in last week's *Wharf* makes the most of the ban by quoting a number of *Telegraph* journalists who say they will continue to read the free paper despite its enforced disappearance from their offices. Colson maintains that security is a concern and that "there's nothing sinister" behind the decision but when the story first broke Colson reportedly tried to persuade *The Wharf* not to report the ban. What next? Journalists to be forbidden to talk to journalists?

ENOCH POWELL called them "parliamentary graffiti" and there can be no doubt that Early Day Motions (EDMs) are the MP's licence to doodle. Pandora salutes one recent example of daydream politics from the Labour MP for Lancaster and Wyre, Hilton Dawson. Mr Dawson has composed an EDM as follows: "That this House recognises the superb achievement of Lancaster City in reaching the first round of the FA Cup; understands that a pulsating victory against their worthy opponents Northampton Town would bring even greater glory to

the wonderful historic city whose name they bear; and dares to dream of a third round tie at home to Manchester United, Arsenal or best of all Sunderland." Sadly, as last Saturday's result showed, this was another EDM that failed to make into the back of the net.

Careless rhetoric will cost lives



ROBERT FISK
No one asks about the 'very strong smell of petroleum' surrounding the pax Americana

JUST EIGHT days ago, former Irish prime minister Albert Reynolds sat down to dinner with Iraqi deputy prime minister Tariq Aziz in Baghdad. The two men had already spent four hours in Aziz's office - Reynolds reminding the Iraqi of the need for compromise in any crisis, Saddam's man (in full militia uniform) insisting, over and over again, that it was Washington's intention to destroy Iraq.

By the time the two men resumed their talks at the Iraqi official's home, Mrs Aziz was already cooking their dinner in the kitchen: a traditional Iraqi dish of rice, chicken and lamb followed by ice cream and six cups of tea. Alcohol is banned for all officials in Baghdad. Mr Reynolds has always been a teetotaler.

"Tariq Aziz's suspicion was that the Americans wanted to wipe out the Iraqi people," Mr Reynolds told me last week.

"He said that repeatedly. He said if there was any other nation subjected to this treatment of sanctions, it would be regarded as a slaughter." The man who helped to frame Northern Ireland's "peace process" was, of course, virtually ignored

when he left Baghdad. By the time he arrived on business in New York at the end of last week - when the Stealth bombers were already lining up on the runways - he was able only to talk on the phone to a few lowly State Department officials about this trip. America didn't want any messages from Baghdad.

When Mr Reynolds drove round to the headquarters of the United Nations Security Council Official

Monitors (Unscorn) in Baghdad, he was also told - by one of three inspectors he met - an intriguing piece of information. A Finnish UN arms inspector claimed that Unscorn was only probably three months from completing its work.

"Have the Iraqis been told this?" Reynolds wanted to know. The UN man had no idea - it wasn't his job to talk to the Iraqis. Reynolds went back to Tariq Aziz. Aziz said: "Decisions might have been taken very differently if Iraq had known about that."

Now it's easy to exaggerate a dinner-time chat between a Saddam underling and an ex-Taoiseach of Ireland. Mr Reynolds was a powerful attention-seeker, a US Official said privately. And it's true that Richard Butler, Unscorn's head, had several times stated, if somewhat cynically, that the inspectors' work had been nearing its end.

But Reynolds had, nonetheless, touched the roots of this latest miserable, billion dollar crisis: Iraq's belief - almost unalterable and certainly not without reason - that the US never intends to lift sanctions. Tariq Aziz's comments to

Reynolds can be found in the annex to this weekend's Iraqi letter to the Security Council which ultimately kept the bombers on the ground - though it contains no reference to that \$100 million which the US Congress has voted to overthrow the Iraqi regime. The UN can hardly be blamed for that.

In the end, then, it all came back to the purpose of sanctions rather than the undiscovered anthrax spores which may or may not remain in Saddam Hussein's laboratories. Reynolds had been sickened by the medical conditions and deaths of thousands of Iraqi civilians. Yet oddly, this plight has in a perverted way become just another reason to continue the UN's ruthless sanctions machinery.

When Madeleine Albright stood up at the UN to demand a continuation of sanctions recently, she argued her case by saying that there was photographic evidence that Saddam Hussein was continuing to build massive and opulent palaces for himself and his personal entourage all over Iraq. Aerial pictures showed the buildings under construction.

If Saddam Hussein could go on amassing his personal wealth, then sanctions had yet to hit him. The irony, of course, is that those who wish to maintain the embargo do so by demonstrating its failure. For if Saddam can still build palaces, then UN sanctions clearly do not work - but Madeleine Albright tried to argue the opposite.

European nations believe that sanctions have become a kind of dogma. Since they haven't worked for eight years, they must go on - and on and on. And no one is asking about what the French call the "very strong smell of petroleum" that surrounds the pax Americana in the Gulf. If the oil embargo was lifted, where would the current low price of oil collapse to?

Like a bad Western, both Baghdad and Washington appear to have adopted totally irrational policies. The Americans want to use force without knowing what they will do afterwards. The Iraqis risk an American offensive because they do not know if they have a future. Questions rather than rhetoric might be a worthy outcome of the latest nonsense in the Gulf.

When Maureen and Castro are not who they seem



ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

Viewers have the right to know whether what they see is fact or fiction, real or reconstructed

THE RECENT decision by the American television network, ABC, to shelve a new film by Oliver Stone about the crash of a TWA airliner off Long Island, which killed all 230 passengers, raises again the question in relation to TV documentaries: what is truth? Mr Stone believes that the cause was a rogue missile fired by the US Navy even though an extensive FBI investigation found no evidence to support this theory. In explanation of its decision, ABC said it had become increasingly uncomfortable about the confusion the film might generate between entertainment and news.

At least ABC acted promptly. Carlton Television boasted that it had secured a one-to-one interview with Fidel Castro, a world exclusive; its press release claimed that "a British film crew has gained rare access to Cuba's charismatic leader". After the broadcast it was discovered that there had been no interview; instead archive footage had been cleverly cut together with contemporary material.

Channel 4 was caught earlier this year when a *Cutting Edge* documentary about cowboy builders was found to be contrived. Channel 4's response was that "there was an element of reconstructed truth of sorts, but there is not a documentary around which does not have an element of that in it". By the way, did we all know that?

Likewise the BBC has confessed that parts of its popular *Driving School* documentary, which made a star of Maureen Rees, were acted. The BBC spokesman said: "Some of it was faked. It was a light-hearted documentary. But the integrity was still there." Again I ask: did we poor viewers guess that must have happened, or were we fooled?

Of course there is always some artifice in television reporting. I have

redone my answers to interviews; I have rehearsed in front of the cameras my walking into the High Court when *The Independent* was involved in a newsworthy legal action. The strictest producers will allow themselves to redo only routine and insignificant action. A more generous allowance is to say, as some do, that we can get people to act out what would have happened anyway. You can see that there is no clear limit.

In fact *Driving School* was so popular that it became the first example of a new genre, the observational documentary or perhaps more aptly, the docu-soap. It was discovered that viewers like the ordinary, the mundane. They appreciate seeing their own lives on screen.

On Saturday evening, for instance, BBC 1 screened another episode of *Airport*, a docu-soap about Heathrow, and last night on ITV in the London region one could have watched two examples - *Park Life*, a documentary series about

Battersea Park, and *Dog Squad*, a series following the work of police dogs. Such programmes attract big audiences and they have begun to replace traditional soap operas and situation comedies.

They have also implanted the wish to appear on TV. Some people will do anything to get in front of a camera. They may want to tell their story; they may find something therapeutic in taking part; they may crave the excitement and flattery of having the cameras around. And they may fake their lives. A Channel 4 team was nearly duped by a man and woman who falsely acted out a father/daughter relationship for a documentary which was to feature three fathers and daughters filmed over a number of months. When the woman was asked why she engaged in the deceit, she explained that she wanted to be famous.

Documentaries of this type are entertainment; they don't pretend to be news, or to be an explanation of what lies behind the headlines. Nonetheless they still implicitly claim to be "true". Unfortunately a number of developments have pushed truth down the list of a documentary film-maker's priorities.

There is intense competition between production companies to get commissions. Inevitably they sometimes find that they have promised more they can deliver. Then the temptation to fake can be powerful. At the same time, the ameliorating influence of the BBC, with its high standards and good traditions, has become attenuated as the number of channels and production companies proliferates. Moreover there is famine in the midst of plenty. Budgets are pared down, so that some internal checks and balances have vanished and less time is spent in planning for filming and evaluating afterwards what has been achieved.



'Driving School' established the popularity of the docu-soap

It is clear that the public needs better protection. Television companies sometimes perpetrate frauds on the viewers. Three types of response are useful. It may sound worthy and dull, but the place to start is school. Young people must be trained to judge the reliability of the messages which bombard them, whether by way of print, radio, television and the Internet, whether fact or fiction, whether advertising or not.

Second, disclosure also has a role to play. Already some reconstructed scenes in documentaries are marked as such. Consumer advice could be provided before programmes are screened. We might learn whether real people were asked to act out incidents which had already occurred, or whether actors were used, or whether, for instance, scenes in a wild life documentary were actually shot in natural conditions or in a zoo.

In addition, television companies should also use their websites to post information about the making of their documentaries. After the programme has been shown, if not be-

fore, a complete list of contrivances should be published. Having to provide the details would itself be a deterrent to taking too many liberties.

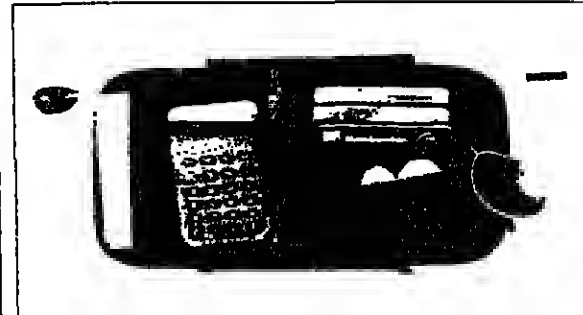
Third, the BBC itself has elaborate guidelines for producers which are being adjusted to reflect the new concerns. Commercial broadcasters, too, should do this. Moreover executives of bodies which find themselves the subject of a TV documentary can take some precautions.

Do not agree to anything until you have seen the terms of the commission between the team making the film and the broadcasting company. Know from the start what is the objective. Production companies notoriously promise the world to commissioning editors but appear modest, reasonable and circumspect when talking to the participants.

I applaud the attitude of the ABC TV network in the United States. Viewers have the right to know whether what they see is real or reconstructed, fact or fiction, some approximation to the truth or not.

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The poor need a cleaner future



PODIUM
JAMES GUSTAVE SPETH
From a speech
by the UN development
director to the
Buenos Aires world
climate conference

THE RECENT catastrophe in Central America, which claimed over 10,000 lives and left more than 1 million homeless, has shown the world once again the disastrous consequences that can befall humanity when poverty and extreme weather conditions collide.

You have all seen the grim news reports, the expressions of shock and profound loss on the faces of so many. Beyond the tragic loss of life, years of progress and development in Central America were quickly erased. Early estimates put rehabilitation costs at \$300 to \$400 (£1.5bn to £2.5bn).

Whatever the cause of Hurricane Mitch, extreme weather events are predicted by many to be one consequence of global warming, the challenge now before us. We have already come a long way. The Kyoto Protocol includes the commitments for countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. I urge all parties to ratify this landmark agreement. There are no sound reasons for costly delays.

It will take some 100 years before the cumulative carbon dioxide emissions from devel-

oping countries equal those of industrialised countries. Yet changes in the earth's climate will hit developing countries first - and hardest. We have already seen, with phenomena such as hurricanes, typhoons and El Niño, the vulnerability of development to climate events. Generations of poverty and deforestation for fuel and farming have left many areas barren and more vulnerable to the destructive forces of floods and mudslides.

The poor have a right to development; it is a fundamental human right to be free of poverty. Some 2 billion people still cook with traditional fuels. More than 1.5 billion do not have electricity. Precious time is expended in poor communities to gather firewood. Developing countries in general, and the poor in particular, urgently need modern energy services. As long as poor communities lack access to these services, development will suffer, and poverty will be perpetuated.

Industrialised countries, responsible for the bulk of greenhouse gas emissions, have recognised that it is in everyone's interest that they

assist developing countries in the implementation of sustainable energy strategies.

The problem is that the promises of greater assistance made at Rio and elsewhere are not being fulfilled. Development finance, sound technology choices, technology transfer, environmentally-conscious pricing and trade policies, technical assistance and new partnerships with the private sector are all needed.

And no mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol can substitute for the need for an urgent reversal of recent declines in development assistance.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is determined to support developing countries' efforts to combine implementation of the climate convention with poverty eradication and sustainable development goals.

UNDP supports the efforts of over 100 developing countries to prepare their initial national communications under the climate convention. We have mobilised donor support to provide additional technical assistance to respond to the immediate needs of developing countries to implement the climate convention.

An increasing number of countries are now including sustainable energy and forestry management among their national priorities for the UN support programme.

The clean development mechanism will contribute significantly to reaching the dual goals of lowering greenhouse gas emissions and sustainable development.

Climate change could affect

the long-term development prospects and security of all nations, rich and poor. Working together through international instruments such as the climate convention, we can help ensure that the aspirations of all countries for continued growth and for poverty eradication are enhanced, not limited, by our growing concerns for the environment. As many in the private sector have realised, responding to the climate change challenge can also provide an important impetus for growth, can create new jobs and industries and can enhance competitiveness.

We have the ingredients before us to turn an ominous environmental challenge into a win-win situation. What we need is sufficient resolve and political will, together with a sense of urgency. The stakes for future generations could not be higher.

The recent financial crisis has shown the importance of political leadership in addressing global challenges together. The long-term stakes here are even higher, and the importance of far-sighted leadership even more important.

مكتبة الأمل

lives

John Walsh's book, *Albanian concrete poetry*, is a collection of poems that he has translated from the original Albanian. The poems are written in a very simple, direct style, and are often about everyday life. Walsh's translations are very good, and he has done a great job of capturing the spirit of the original poems.

Rounders, chips and whisky



JOHN WALSH

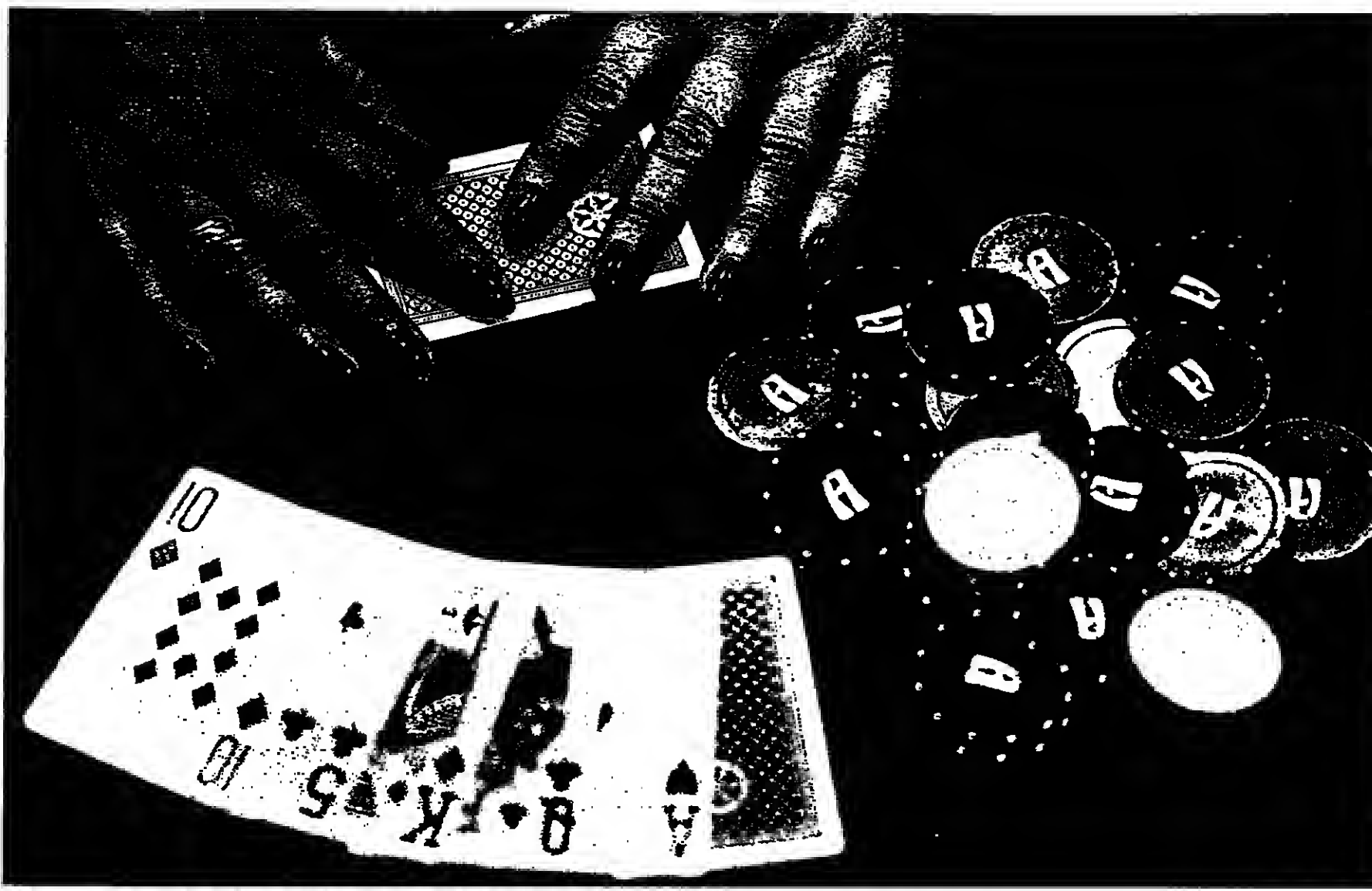
Poker jargon is so dense you wonder if you're listening to Albanian concrete poetry

LEAF WITH me a while through *The Small Pleasures of Life*, an unexpected best-seller in France last year by a floppy-fringed exquisite called Philippe Delerm, which is now available in translation over here. A precious little volume, about as substantial as *The Little Book Of Coin*, only more elaborately poetic, it offers 34 meditations on tiny joys: the first sip of beer, eating a croissant in the street, the smell of apples, inhaling an anti-cold remedy, pulling on a new autumnal jumper – you get the picture. Some of M Delerm's "plaisirs minuscules" are a little hard to empathise with (Getting your espadrilles wet? The noise of a dynamo?), but you must take your chapeau off to a clever idea.

As you read these two-page epiphanyes, however, it is impossible not to imagine how different an English version of the book would be. Instead of Philippe's educated raptures about railway-station travelators and small-town mobile libraries, there would be a lot about wet dogs, conkers, linsed oil on your first cricket bat, the words "Cromarty, Perth, German Bight", Water Splash at Battersea Run Fair, the front-loading brassières of public schoolgirls (M Delerm doesn't mention sex at all), and instead of his ruminative, oh-so-French "first sip of beer", the frictionless texture of your sixth pint of Dogbolter bitter at the aftermath of a London wedding.

It's a question of priorities. In the French version, our author scans his breakfast newspaper and finds "Wars, atrocities and natural disasters on the front page... somehow the violence of our times doesn't have the same impact when it tastes of chocolate spread, gooseberry jam and toast. Newspapers have a sedating effect". On this side of the Channel, the taste of bacon, eggs and marmalade, delicious though they are, come second to the taste of the British fourth estate, ponce Roger Gale, in full scandalous cry.

I AM indebted to David Garrood of Farnham Common for introducing me to the Scotch Malt Whisky Society, of which I wasn't previously aware but with which I feel I'm destined to become closely acquainted,



'Alligator blood', 'Georges' and 'Rubes' all feature in the bewildering vocabulary of poker

if only for the waywardness of its tasting panel. We have heard much, over the summer, about the "pretentious" Master of Wine at Sotheby's and have become used to the way excitable connoisseurs like Ms Jilly Gooden identify the fugitive essence of Latvian dower's handbag in premier cru ciders. It's nice to discover the malt whisky gang are right up there with the best of them, fairly writhing with polymorphous flavour-chasing.

Their most recent newsletter commends, for instance, the 1988 Highland Park in these words: "The mead nose gives a full creamy aroma, like Horlicks, which combined with a bubblegum note and a fair blast of peat, both of which increase when water is added, the latter becoming 'straw matches'." Horlicks? Bubblegum? Matches? The same hybrid of the classy and the cornyshop appears in their view of 1990 Clyn Elish, which is "freshly baked fairy cakes, lemon juice in cream, very light vanilla. With water it becomes more fragrant – scented soap, ladies' perfume, scented candles...". Notice the charmingly Edwardian fastidiousness of that "ladies' perfume" – as if the tasters were wondering how the blazes a whiff of the mem-

sahib had infiltrated this quintessentially masculine pastime. My favourite, though, is their assessment of the '78 (and incidentally M7) bottle Glen Gerroch, a puzzling little number with "favourable you would not usually expect to find in malt whisky. Air freshener, raspberry-flavoured toffee and canvas. The flavour is of Love Hearts, fresh strawberries and a touch of chlorine...". Those of us who had endured them were reminded of caravan holidays in the West Highlands. What I detect here is the distinct aroma of a dozen well-heeled, tweedy valetudinarians sitting around a table, staring fearfully into their cloudy lead-crystal glasses and free-associated into the wee small hours.

ANYONE WHO saw *Twister*, last year's summer blockbuster about a group of tornado-chasers, will remember how the arcane of meteorology and techno-weather drenched whole scenes in conversational exchanges that mean nothing at all to the non-specialist. Lately, films have displayed an irritating tendency to use baffling and obscure language. I don't mean art-house movies, or the street

slang of modern gangster films; I mean mainstream Hollywood features, and their unrepentant embracing of the jargon of science, business and the law.

More recently, from Tarantino's *Jackie Brown* there issued a flood of obscurantist verbiage about bail-bonding that left you mystified as to who owed what to whom. The rash of movies made from John Grisham's novels and stories – from *The Client* to *The Gingerbread Man* – similarly pulled the wool over audiences' eyes with the wiggly minutiae of legal jargon.

Once there was a fine old Hollywood tradition of having a token dimwit on hand to ask the Professor/consultant surgeon/forensic scientist to explain what he's talking about in layman's terms ("Are you telling me this creature lives on human brains, is impervious to bullets, but can be destroyed by a rare enzyme that exists in the sap of a single tree jealously guarded by a mad Puerto Rican horticulturalist living in Des Moines, Iowa? Well why didn't you say?"). Now we get the raw sewage of unexplicated professional potpourri passed off as everyday chat.

Once the movies liked things simple. Hitchcock coined the word

"McGuffin" to mean the difficult scientific thingy (the microfilm, the secret formula, the urgent encryption) that kept the plot moving but didn't warrant an explanation. In *The China Syndrome*, TV journalists Michael Douglas and Jane Fonda discover that a nuclear reactor is dangerously unstable, but their attempts to expose it are scuppered by a scientist's inability to explain the danger in anything but baffling-speak. Jargon was once the enemy of clarity and entertainment; now it's the currency of the modern movie script.

A new high – or low – point of this tendency informs a new film called *Rounders*, which premiered at the London Film Festival on Friday, complete with personal appearances by its stars, Matt Damon and Fannele Janssen. Despite the title, it's not about playground baseball, but poker. And so dense is its dialect that you can sit through lengthy dramatic interchanges wondering if you're listening to a translation of Albanian concrete poetry.

It's the only film I've seen where they give you a glossary of specialist terms, to consult in the dark. "There's a sign on your back" means you've been identified as a cheat. "Alligator blood" means

you're a cool player under pressure. "Gimme thirty High Society" means \$30,000 worth of the highest-denomination chips. "Georges" and "rubes" are helpfully glossed as "rubes", meaning out-of-town players unfamiliar with the ways of sharks. A "mechanic" is a cheat, who probably "base-deals" off the bottom of the deck. "Broadway" is a royal straight. And so on. I'm sure it's all frightfully authentic but goodness, it's wearisome.

And just to complete the on-screen scenario of wilful bafflement, there's a performance of strangled madness by John Malkovich, as a Russian mafioso shark supreme. The words he has to say are simple enough; but he utters them in a hilarious, mincing parody of Russian English, promiscuously inserting vowels where none has ever been. "Okay" becomes "e-ay-ky-ay".

On starting to lose the initiative in a poker game, he snarls: "I am nyot syat-yis-fyed". On learning that Matt Damon is playing to keep his self-respect, he grates: "Rispyect is the yonily thying you will hyave in the morning". Hollywood, eh? You give them the English language and they reduce it to a pyle of bylocks.

RIGHT OF REPLY

JASMINE UDDIN

The chair of the British Acupuncture Council replies to Professor Ernst's recent article

PROFESSOR EDZARD Ernst is to be congratulated for his article on acupuncture (Health, 20 October) which highlights its growing popularity. What a pity then, that he compared it to Western medicine in the Middle Ages and devalues the extent of its use.

Acupuncture is a form of Chinese medicine and has existed in a documented form for more than 2,000 years. Its theoretical basis and development are quite different from Western medicine. The fact that it is an ancient practice does not mean it is stuck in the past. On the contrary, the essence of Chinese thinking is change, and acupuncture has, throughout its history, been constantly developing.

Professor Ernst is right to lay great emphasis on the importance of training and research to enhance our understanding and raise our standards of treatment, but these must be carried out in the context of the Chinese system, of which acupuncture is a part. If Western scientific methods have not yet proved the value of some theories on which acupuncture is based – for example *qi* (vital energy) – it does not mean they are not valid, and it would be arrogant to claim so. Thousands of people receive effective acupuncture for a range of conditions from practitioners using traditional Chinese methods.

Patient safety and the effective administration of acupuncture are equally important. The British Acupuncture Council insists on a minimum of two years' training. Many Western doctors and physiotherapists get only two weeks' training before practising acupuncture; perhaps this is the medieval state to which Ernst is referring.

In Britain today we have one of the most freely available and well-developed systems of acupuncture in Europe. With the British Acupuncture Council we have an effective organisation for monitoring and developing this. It would be to the benefit of all, especially patients, if everyone with an interest in acupuncture were to work together to ensure the highest possible standards.

A talent that defies translation

MONDAY BOOK

PUSHKIN

BY ELAINE FEINSTEIN, WEIDENFELD & NICOLSON, £20



"WHAT A devil's trick that I should have been born with a soul and talent in Russia!" Pushkin's bitter comment was widely quoted in the Soviet period, but it was the same kind of state tyranny that had haunted this marvellous poet throughout his short life. As for his death, in a duel at the age of 37, "what killed Pushkin was not D'Anthes's bullet. What killed him was lack of air", said the Symbolist poet, Blok. A "New Russian" would surely recognise the financial pressures, cynical frivolity and deadly gossip of Pushkin's final stifling year.

He was born in 1799 to an old aristocratic family whose fortunes were in steep decline. His upbringing was a dizzy mixture of harshness and permissiveness. His mother disliked him and nagged him relentlessly, possibly because his

appearance reminded her of her great-grandfather, Abram Gannibal, an African slave sent to Peter the Great as a little gift from his ambassador in Turkey. Gannibal rose high in the Tsar's service, though, and seems to have had a more cheerful life than most of his heirs.

Pushkin's father, though hardly satisfactory, was a formative influence by default. The boy rummaged freely in the paternal library, reading everything from Voltaire to the latest poem. His grandmother taught him to read and write Russian, and his nurse, Arina Rodionova, both genuinely loved him and nurtured his imagination. But his real family were his classmates at the Lyceum in Tsarskoye Selo; most of his childhood recollections begin with school. His poems impressed not only friends and teachers. After hearing him recite at school, the poet Derzhavin announced: "I live on. He is the one who will replace Derzhavin."

Though not directly involved in conspiracy, Pushkin espoused the reformist ideals of the Decembrists. Poems such as his *Ode to Freedom* were considered rallying cries, and he was accused of "flooding the country with seditious material". He was three weeks short of 21 and had recently completed *Ruslan and Ludmila* when he was sent into exile in the far south. He would never again be free of police surveillance and the censor's pen.

An aristocratic young man could enjoy himself even under such circumstances. Yet, despite dissipation and romance, Pushkin worked. He embarked on the opening stanzas of his great poem-novel, *Yevgeny Onegin*. He earned 3,000 roubles for *The Fountain of Bolshoi-Serai* and became the first ever professional Russian poet. He began to throw off the French influence and any lingering Byronic affectations. His prose fiction – with its spare, clean style, its absence of moralising – may outshine for some the "great 19th-century Russian novel". He

excelled in every genre that he touched. If, as all critics agree, his genius rarely survives translation, this is because (in the words of an earlier biographer, Ernest Simmons) "form with Pushkin is inseparable from content... It is never a kind of shell but the very essence of poetic expression. He will pare and polish until he has achieved the ultimate degree of simplicity. But when a translator attempts to catch the simplicity, the results are often simple in the worst sense of the word".

Simmons's 1937 biography remains a classic, and Elaine Feinstein draws on it a good deal. Aiming at the general reader, her strokes are broader, and she weaves in accounts of some of the major texts, although the poetic qualities of the translated verse remain evanescent. Some new findings are interestingly explored. There are the letters from Pushkin's wife, Natalia, to her brother, Dmitri, which show a conscientious side to a character usually presented as a pricetease and shopaholic.

Fresh evidence – which seems to corroborate the long-held suspicion that D'Anthes's relations with his patron, Heerecken, were homosexual – makes the character of Natalia's would-be seducer even more difficult to assess. Control-freak sex-addict: how these crude contemporary terms suit the socialites of old Petersburg! As Pushkin's novel-like story leads to tragic dénouement, who cares about D'Anthes anyway?

For all his weaknesses, Pushkin was a man of moral stature. When, having brutally crushed the Decembrist revolt, the new tsar, Nicholas I, asked Pushkin if he had associated with the conspirators, the young poet replied: "It is true. I loved and esteemed many of them and continue to nourish the same feelings." And when, on his deathbed, he suffered extreme agony, he fought to restrain his moans for fear of upsetting Natalia in the next room.

Russia has a talent for rubbing out the



Pushkin's last self-portrait

historical faces it no longer likes. Surely this could not happen to so beloved, so universal, a writer? Already, it seems, there is some sinister revisionism abroad. Feinstein quotes this account of "New Russian" attitudes from a recent Pushkin conference: "The younger generation... is rethinking its relationship to the educated Western gentry who left a legacy of independence and dignity to the embattled intellectuals of the Soviet period but whose scorn for commerce, its politics of palace rebellion and lack of participation in the liberal professions may have left a more negative heritage for the Russia which finds itself trying to develop a market economy." I feel that a certain menacing "lack of air" hangs over that sentence.

CAROL RUMENS

MONDAY POEM

THE MYSTERY OF SHOES

BY MARTINA EVANS

I avert my eyes passing
shoeshops
but the devil
peers out, ruby eyes
illuminating
a window in Venice
filled with expensive colours
of chocolate, donkey, desert.
Mary Magdalene unbuckling
Jesus's dusty sandals,
all those people in the bible
showing off their toes,
the gleaming shoes
my daughter begged for,
smart as paint,
strapped to her feet,
they made her shy,
so chic she was afraid
that they'd speak to her.

This poem comes from Martina Evans's second collection, *All Alcoholics Are Charmers* (Anvil Press, £7.95)

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Valerie Hobson

LIKE MANY British female film stars of the Thirties and Forties, Valerie Hobson exuded breeding and class, but she also brought to her performances a delightfully sophisticated sense of humour and a refreshing element of spunk, whether as the wise-cracking heroine of *Q Planes*, the resourceful double agent of *The Spy in Black*, the haughty Estella of *Great Expectations*, the shrewd widow in *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, or on stage, the dignified but determined governess Anna Leonowens in *The King and I*.

She was to display similar grit in her real life when her husband, the politician John Profumo, became notorious for his relationship with a call-girl who was also involved with a Russian official. In an admirable display of stoicism and loyalty, Hobson stood by her husband and they were to remain married until her death.

She was born Valerie Babette Louise Hobson, in Larnie, Northern Ireland, in 1917, the daughter of a British naval officer who was serving on a minesweeper at the time. She was educated at St Augustine's Priory, London and started dancing lessons at three.

When we moved to Hampshire and I was five, I was taken to London twice a week to be taught ballet by Epiphanos. These lessons were intended to 'give me grace', but were precious training for the stage, which I'd been heading for ever since I grabbed a bath towel and pretended to be the Queen of Sheba, with nappy for an audience.

After training at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, she made her stage debut at the age of 15 in *Orders Are Orders*. Oscar Hammerstein II, who saw her in the show, spotted her lunching with her mother at Claridge's, went over to their table and offered her a small part in his production *Ball at the Savoy*, starring Maurice Evans, at Drury Lane. While appearing in the show, she made her first film, a minor thriller *Eyes of Fate* (1933).

Evans then asked her to appear with himself and Henry Daniell in the film version of L. DuGard Peach's radio play *The Path of Glory* (1934), a satire on war so biting that it was taken out of distribution after one day. Hobson had a small stage role in Noel Coward's *Conversation Piece*, during the run of which she played the romantic lead in a popular screen adaptation of R.C. Sherriff's play *Badger's Green*. As the daughter of a developer whose plans will wreck a village's beloved cricket green, she complicates things by falling in love with the son of a protestor.

Her performance in the film led to tests for Hollywood and the offer of a contract by Universal Pictures. With her mother, the 17-year-old Hobson departed for the US, but was disap-

pointed with the parts she was given. Ironically her first role, that of Biddy in the studio's version of Dickens' *Great Expectations* (1934) was eliminated from the final print - years later Hobson was to have notable success as Estella in David Lean's masterly version of the same tale.

The studio started her in B films (briefly as a platinum blonde), and though one of Hobson's subsequent American films is a true classic, James Whale's baroque *Bride of Frankenstein* (1935), the actress was unhappy with the other horror films and minor thrillers she was offered. Even in the best, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (1935) and *Werewolf of London* (1935), her roles were colourless. "I'd been there 18 months and learnt a great deal, but I was getting tired of horror pictures and doing nothing but scream and faint... In *The Bride of Frankenstein*, I was carried by Boris Karloff over almost every artificial hill in Hollywood." Universal in fact kept her screams in their sound library to use in subsequent horror movies.

Hobson returned to England in 1936, where in such films as the intriguing thriller *No Escape* (1936) she quickly established herself as a stylish leading lady. In this pre-war period Hobson reputedly also made more television appearances than any other actress. The producer Alexander Korda, after seeing Hobson's performance opposite Douglas Fairbanks Jr in Raoul Walsh's *Jump for Glory* (1937), tested her for the role of a colonel's wife on the North

until then. When they put it on at the Plaza there were queues literally round the block to see it."

A sequel, *This Man in Paris* (1938), was even better than the first. Both films were produced by Anthony Havelock-Allan, with whom Hobson fell in love, and they were married in 1939. Meanwhile the Korda production *Q Planes* (1938) had consolidated Hobson's stardom. As the sister of Ralph Richardson and sweetheart of Laurence Olivier, Hobson brought infectious sparkle to a lively and witty espionage thriller, and she followed this with two more highly entertaining thrillers, *The Spy in Black* (1939) and *Contraband* (1940), both co-starring Conrad Veidt, scripted by Emeric Pressburger and directed by Michael Powell, who was to recall, "Valerie was a tall, strong, intelligent girl with glorious eyes and a quick wit (too quick a wit, some people thought, but I had suffered too many English ladies to complain about that)."

The Spy in Black opened in London the week that war was declared, was a great hit in both England and the US, and prompted the second pairing of the two stars in *Contraband*, aptly retitled *Blackout* in the US since a great deal of the film's action takes place in a blacked-out West End. During the war years Hobson's career faltered after she turned down David O. Selznick's offer of a Hollywood contract because she did not want to leave her husband.

She was off screen for three years after *The Adventures of Tortu* in 1943, and other actresses became more popular, notably those of the Gainsborough pictures, such as Margaret Lockwood, Phyllis Calvert, Jean Kent and Patricia Roc, all of whom could play earthier roles than Hobson, who was becoming increasingly patrician.

She returned to the screen as an MP who finds it difficult to adjust to life with a husband returned from the war in *The Years Between* (1946), then was cast as Estella in *Great Expectations* (1946), regarded by many as the finest screen adaptation of a Dickens novel. The film was produced by Cineguild, a company formed by Hobson's husband along with Ronald Neame and David Lean, and the same group produced Hobson's next film, a lavish costume melodrama *Blanche Fury* (1947).

In this gloomy tale, Stewart Granger was the illegitimate but rightful heir to the Fyrie estate who murders Hobson's husband and father-in-law. He is hanged for his crimes and Hobson dies giving birth to his son. An attempt to appeal to the audience who had flocked to Gainsborough melodramas, it was too sombre for popular acceptance. Said Hobson, "I had just had our son, who was born mentally handicapped, and



Hobson with John Mills in *Great Expectations*, 1946

Tony meant the film as a sort of 'loving gift', making me back into a leading lady."

The film's beautiful production values and stunning colour photography prompted critic Richard Winnington to comment: "Let's have some bad lighting and some bad photograph and perhaps a bit of a good movie." More highly thought of today, the film remains Hobson's own favourite.

In 1949 she starred in a film unanimously praised as a classic comedy, Robert Hamner's *Kind Hearts and*

Coronets. Hobson stated: "I have always thought that the main reason for the success of *Kind Hearts* was that it was played absolutely dead straight. I think they were very clever and cast two such contrasting types as Joan Greenwood and myself as the women."

Hobson had an unsympathetic role as a selfish mother in *The Rocking Horse Winner* (1948) and played the Countess in *The Card* (1951), again co-starring with Alec Guinness ("a wonderful film actor with the most subtle integrity"). In 1952 she

and Havelock-Allan were divorced. Good film roles were becoming scarce again when Hobson was offered the starring role of Anna in the Drury Lane production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical *The King and I*. The show's original Broadway star, Gertrude Lawrence, had planned to recreate her part in London prior to her untimely death. (Hobson had studied singing at RADA, and during her Hollywood stay had sung on Bing Crosby's radio programme.)

With Herbert Lom playing the King the show was a smash hit and a great personal success for Hobson. It opened in October 1953 and Hobson stayed in it for a year and a half, announcing that at the end of the run she would retire since she doubted anything in her career could top this. Her last film was René Clément's witty comedy, *Knave of Hearts* (*Monsieur Ripois*) (1954) in which she was the accommodating wife of a philanderer (Gérard Philipe). She had married an MP, John Profumo, and stated that she would devote the rest of her life to being his wife.

When in March 1963 her husband admitted his affair with Christine Keeler and resigned from his post as Secretary of State for War, Hobson's name was again in the headlines. "Of course I am not leaving Jack because this ghastly thing has happened," she said at the time. "I hope to spend the rest of my life with him and my family - the rest of my life." She continued to deal with the matter with restraint and dignity but did not flinch from the facts.

A few weeks after the headlines dozens of reporters and photographers rushed to Dymchurch in Kent where Hobson was making her first public appearance since the scandal, opening a home for mentally handicapped children. Before the ceremony she told the crowd of over 1,000 people: "I hope you will forgive me if I start on a more private note. The personal affairs of my family have been so greatly in the limelight recently that it has not been quite easy for me to decide whether or not I should have fulfilled this engagement. The invitation which I accepted with great joy last October, has turned out to be a little of an ordeal. But when I see you all and know how friendly and kind you always are I know that, in fact, it is one of my great joys. There are occasions when all personal circumstances come secondary."

At the end of the ceremony the actress received a prolonged ovation. Her involvement with the mentally handicapped started after one of her two sons by Havelock-Allan was born with Down's Syndrome and she also devoted time to Lepra, a leprosy relief organisation. John Profumo, after his resignation, worked tirelessly for charity, notably at Toynbee Hall, a welfare organisation for the poor and victims of alcohol and drugs, and his wife assisted him in this. In 1975 he was appointed Commander of the British Empire and Hobson, who accompanied him to Buckingham Palace, made evident her great pleasure that her husband's public service had been recognised.

TOM VALLANCE

Valerie Babette Louise Hobson, actress: born Larnie, Co Larnie 14 April 1917; married 1939 Anthony Havelock-Allan (one son and one son deceased; marriage dissolved 1952); 1954 John Profumo (one son); died London 13 November 1998.

Quentin Crewe

QUENTIN CREWE was a traveller, writer and journalist but above all a man of extraordinary charm and resilience. Despite being relatively immobile for much of his life - he was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy at the age of six - he never ceased to look for novelty and to delight in people, places, ideas and humour, retaining throughout his life the optimism and curiosity of a young man.

He was born Quentin Dodds in 1922, the second son of Hugh Dodds and Lady Annabel Crewe, the daughter of the Marquess of Crewe, who was, as his grandson liked to say, the first Secretary of State for India to think it was worthwhile going to that country. His mother had five children by her first husband, Arthur O'Neill, who was killed in the First World War. His father had spent much of his life in Africa and had worked as a diplomat in Abyssinia for 13 years. During Crewe's early childhood his father was British Consul in Sicily before being transferred to the French Riviera when his friendship with Haile Selassie made it impossible to remain in Italy.

With his parents living abroad, the young Quentin spent much of his childhood in the care of various relatives in England, one of whom suggested when he was six that he should see a doctor to find out why he walked in such an odd manner and fell over so frequently. His mother took him to see a neurologist in Harley Street and was told that he had muscular dystrophy and would die when he was about 16. He was told that he would be fine when he was 16. As they left his mother announced: "Well, that's done. Now let's go and have tea with Cousin Nellie." The subject of his illness was never raised again and although Quentin was disappointed that nothing changed when he turned 16, he did not see another doctor until he was 18.

His father was very keen that he should be a sportsman and was continually trying to teach him to shoot, fence or ride, without any success. When Quentin went to the village on his bicycle his father would be waiting for his return. "Well did you no-

ties?" he would ask, having taken impala and gazelle heads down from the wall and balanced them in the bushes which lined the drive. On being told that Quentin had not noticed anything in particular his father would be disappointed once more: "Well you wouldn't last long in the bush would you?"

At Cambridge he failed to study either law or economics but discovered his delight in people, in girls, and their singularities. He was falling over more than ever and took to walking with a stick, although he did achieve sporting success as a cox. In 1945 his family changed their name to Crewe when his mother inherited what remained of Lord Crewe's estates.

His first years in London were spent selling books, art exhibitions and tickets to New York and the Caribbean for the French Line, but were more engrossingly taken up by a passionate affair with Sarah Macmillan, the daughter of Lord Boothby and Lady Dorothy Macmillan. To recover from its ending he went to Lerici in Italy to read to the author and literary critic Percy Lubbock, whose eyesight was failing.

Even if Junior's information turned out not to be correct, Crewe's piece had enough atmospheric details about echoing halls in the deserted casino to gain him a job as a leader writer on the *Evening Standard*.

At the *Evening Standard* he moved from writing leaders to giving accounts of London parties and being, briefly, helicopter correspondent. He spent a year travelling in the United States and the West Indies with his first wife, Martha Sharp, and having finally given in to the need of a wheelchair set off to spend a year in Japan. His first book, *A Curse of Blossom* (1960), describes living in Kyoto in the late 1950s.

After Japan he became one of the assistant directors of Jocelyn Stevens' *Queen* magazine. His transformation into restaurant critic was quite by chance. Someone had forgotten to make the usual listings and an empty half-page was filled with Crewe's account of lunching at Wilton's restaurant in St James's, where he described how the aristocracy were served nursery food by waitresses dressed as nannies. He ended by saying that the prices, as befitted the clientele, were like death

duties, aimed at capital rather than income. He thus started a new and lasting trend whereby restaurant reviews were as much about style and entertainment as about food.

His first marriage had by now ended, and in 1961 he married Angela Ruth and walked for the last time, down the length of the aisle at St Bride's Church in Fleet Street. The couple lived in Wilton Crescent and entertained a set who included George Melly, Dudley Moore, Sandie Shaw, Bill Wyman, Peter Sellers,

Arthur Koestler, Jocelyn Stevens, Bernard Levin, Kenneth Tynan, Princess Margaret and Tony Armstrong-Jones (who devised a specially modified wheelchair for Crewe). Crewe's career as a journalist prospered. He was film critic and gossip columnist for the *Daily Mail* and in 1964 started to write a regular column for the *Sunday Mirror*. His columns included a series illustrating the effects of apartheid in South Africa: these views were explained away by the South African authorities on the basis that "crippled in body means crippled in mind". Crewe resigned from *Queen* over a special South African advertising supplement.

He had already made his first desert expedition in 1956, visiting the Rub al Khali, the Empty Quarter, in Saudi Arabia to observe the vanishing life of the nomads as described by his friend Wilfred Thesiger in *Arabian Sands*. In the company of Jeremy Fry and various guides, cooks and drivers supplied by King Faisal he succeeded in crossing the border into what was then the East Aden Protectorate, on the way passing through desert marked on Western maps as unexplored territory.

The return journey was enlivened by the madness of the Interpreter, Abdullah, who being unused to the uncertainties of desert life became unbalanced, attacked members of the party and came close to cutting his own throat. Doped up with morphine and stitched up by Fry, Abdullah was returned to civilisation alive. Crewe's fascination with nomads and with people who possessed certainties and codes of life that were complete and rational in themselves but totally opposed to Western ones, remained, and after ten years living and farming in Cheshire with his third wife Sue Cavendish, in 1981 he set out on an 18-month journey through the Sahara. The idea was once again to observe and record a way of life which was disappearing. At the beginning there was some pretence of method and organisation, however, once the original party had dissolved to a group of five it came

to resemble a team of lotus eaters more than a military expedition.

A characteristic decision was to leave Nouakchott, the capital of Mauritania, and head north in the hope of reaching an excellent restaurant in southern Morocco in time for Christmas. On the Mauritanian coast the desert comes down to the sea, which is itself darkened by teeming shoals of fish. Unfortunately near the border there are also minefields, and one of the expedition's trucks was destroyed. Crewe was thrown out of the

vehicle but landed relatively unscathed, only to be interrogated by the military in the nearby town of Nouadhibou. After days of repeating the same answers he was arrested for allegedly claiming that Mauritania did not exist and was only released after swearing three times to the existence of the Mauritania in the presence of the town's senior officer.

Part of Crewe's delight in desert life and Africa was undoubtedly the combination of respect and interest he excited. Only an important man would



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travel with four young people to wheel him around and look after him. Left alone in any oasis or town he would soon attract a circle of inquisitive admirers. For him it was almost a political creed to be open-minded and to look for the best in people and there was a succession of head men, local officials and dignitaries who were delighted by his attention.

They did not always understand his questioning. At a wedding in Walata, Mauritania, he asked the host how much he paid his servants? It was a matter of general hilarity that, apparently, the English paid wages to their slaves. He recounted the journey in *In Search of the Sahara* (1963).

Crewe continued to work as a journalist, to write about food, good living and travel. He also stood up for underdogs and argued that disabled people are not very different from anyone else. He wrote about India (*The Last Maharaja*, 1968) and the West Indies (*Touch the Happy Isles*, 1987) and lived in Kenya and France as well as in England. He retained his enjoyment of life, his interest in other people and the young, his sense of humour and his love of fine food and drink. Like all truly social people he was able to adapt to the manners of those with whom he found himself and his attraction for and interest in girls never dimmed.

In his autobiography, *Well, I Forget the Rest* (1991), Quentin Crewe says that Patrick Lindsay, the aviator and auctioneer, had a theory that on the stroke of midnight he was able to leap from his chair, priapic and triumphant. Whilst declining to discuss his successes, he adds, "It seems as good a theory as any".

JOCELYN DE MOUBRAY

Quentin Hugh Dodds (Quentin Crewe): writer and traveller: born London 14 November 1922; married 1956 Martha Sharp (one son, one daughter; marriage dissolved); 1961 Angela Ruth (one daughter and one son deceased; marriage dissolved); 1970 Sue Cavendish (one son, one daughter; marriage dissolved); died Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire 14 November 1998.



The Clancy Brothers: Paddy Clancy (second from right) with (from left) Tom Clancy, Liam Clancy and Tommy Makem David Redfern

Paddy Clancy

FOLLOWING THE death of Paddy Clancy, only one of the original members of the Irish folk group the Clancy Brothers, Liam, remains to carry on the tradition of table-thumping Irish ballad groups which they originated 40 years ago. However, the Clancy name continues, with Liam supported by the next generation, Pat, the third generation, Bobby, and Liam and Paddy's nephew Robbie O'Connell.

It was Liam Clancy who formed the Clancy Brothers, in 1959 in New York, after he met Tommy Makem, when both of them were working as actors in an off-Broadway production of the play *Shadows and Substance*, by Paul Vincent Carroll.

The owner of the Fifth Peg bar in Greenwich Village approached Clancy and Makem with the idea of singing a few Irish songs as a nightly warm-up act. He offered them three times what the theatre was paying them, and after a week as support, they were promoted to headline status.

Shortly after that, Liam's other two brothers, Paddy and Tom, joined for a gig at Alan Ribback's Gate of Horn club in Chicago, and the Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem were born. They'd been wracking their brains to come up with

a suitable name, but since they couldn't agree to anything suitable, the billboard outside the club just said that.

Their impact on the nascent New York folk scene was considerable. Bob Dylan took the melody of their outland ballad "Brennan on the Moor" for his song "Ramblin' Gambler Willie". Thirty years later they were to repay the compliment, when they sang Dylan's "When the Ship Comes In" at his 30th anniversary concert at Madison Square Garden, in October 1992.

Paddy Clancy was born in the little Tipperary village of Carrick-on-Suir in 1922, the eldest of 11 children. With Liam and his other brother, Tom, he arrived in the United States in the early Fifties.

Paddy started the well-respected Tradition Records label with the folklorist Ken Goldstein, devoted primarily to issuing the work of the great Irish traditionalists, such as Padraig O'Keefe, Tommy Makem's mother Sarah, Denis Murphy, the great Fermanagh stylist (and IRA activist) Paddy Tunney, and Sean MacDonnchadha.

The company's sixth album, a collection of rebel ballads featuring Paddy's brothers with Makem, recorded on a domestic tape machine in Goldstein's apartment in the Bronx, was a

break from the intricate subtleties of singers such as Tunney, who sang unaccompanied, with elaborate decorations like a vocal equivalent of the Book of Kells.

But *The Rising of the Moon*, and its follow-up collection of drinking songs, *Come Fill Your Glass With Us* (both in the late 1950s), brought them to the attention of Columbia Records, already with an unexpected hit on their hands in the shape of Bob Dylan, and the group graduated to playing in night spots like the Blue Angel in New York.

It was there that the television presenter Ed Sullivan spotted and hired them for a support spot on his programme. When the main act failed to show, they had to improvise an extra 10 minutes, and the 20-minute exposure to 50 million viewers consolidated their cross-over success outside the confines of the folk scene.

After building up a huge international following, through which they changed at least the popular image of Irish folk music, laying the ground for the punk folk of groups like the Pogues (though the roots tradition continued on its own sweet way, as it has for centuries), they disbanded in 1966.

Paddy returned to his native village

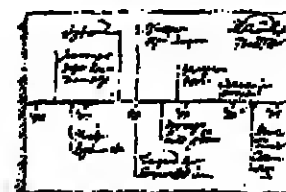
to become an innovative dairy farmer, Liam and Tom returned to acting, and Tommy Makem worked as a solo artist. The group had a reunion in 1984, and got together for occasional tours, the last concert of which was at the National Concert Hall in Dublin in 1996. Tom had died in 1990, from cancer.

Their last album, *Older But No Wiser*, for Vanguard in the 1990s, was billed as the Clancy Brothers and Robbie O'Connell, and featured an entirely new collection of songs, apart from Dylan's "Ship".

Though Paddy had been ill for some time, as recently as February this year he was running a "pub tour of Ireland", when for \$979 per person, including transatlantic airfare, US visitors were taken on a musical drinking tour of the country, concluding with a visit to his farm for a parting glass, though not necessarily of his excellent milk. It was there he took his own parting glass, dying in the village where he had been born.

KARL DALLAS

Patrick Clancy, singer: born Carrick-on-Suir; Co Waterford 1922; twice married (three daughters, two sons); died Carrick-on-Suir, Co Waterford 11 November 1998.



HISTORICAL NOTES

NIGEL TATTERSFIELD

A trade ordained by God himself

THERE IS a darkness at the heart of the history of the Atlantic slave trade which has yet to be fully explored. Whilst predominantly white European and American scholars sift the mountain of evidence detailing the European exploitation of sub-Saharan Africa, the key role played by Africans themselves as traders has manifestly failed to register in the popular consciousness.

Yet a trade it was. Blinded by the emotional issues, it is too easily forgotten that this trade was a long series of even-handed, regulated commercial transactions between the European buyers and the African sellers, who were no motley bunch of kidnappers and crimps but the rulers of the West African coastal states from Cape Verde south to Angola.

These rulers and their officials not only held absolute sway along the coast, but had been involved in the slave trade long before the first Europeans appeared off their shores in the 15th century. The Africans controlled the trade routes from the continent's interior, possessed well-disciplined maritime forces fully capable of defending their home waters, dictated the terms by which Africa engaged in the Atlantic slave trade, and determined the very extent and nature of the European response.

No slave trade captain or merchant was left in any doubt of their power. It was

the African political and economic elite who sanctioned the construction of the European trade forts, and they who devised a system to facilitate trading - interpreters, canoeists, porters, headmen, and a host of petty officials ranging from the "captain of the sand" (who guarded the trade goods) to the "captain of the trunk" (whose responsibility was the slave-pen), and the "captain of the slaves" (who marshalled the slaves for boarding). This mechanism was adapted from a sophisticated system of slave gathering, slave marketing and slave delivery that existed long before any European contact.

With the slave trade, as with any other business, the African rulers and their mercantile elite zealously protected their own interests. They imposed customs and taxes, sought to extend their influence, made pacts with states more powerful than themselves, and played off one European nation against another.

In 1678 a senior official of England's Royal African Company observed that a colleague, once ashore in Africa, was "absolutely under the command of the king... and liable for the least displeasure to lose all the goods he has in his possession, with danger also to his life." This situation changed little over the ensuing years.

Vast wealth flowed into the coffers of the African elite, far eclipsing the profits

of any European slave trader. For example, in 1750 King Teguessa of Dahomey was reliably estimated to have earned £250,000 from the trade in that year alone, five times the annual income of England's richest duke.

Little wonder therefore that the British decision in 1807 to prohibit the slave trade sent a shock wave down the West African coast. Most telling of all was the remark made by the ruler of Bonny (now southern Nigeria) to Hugh Crow, a Liverpool slave trade captain of the time. "This trade must go on," asserted the African, "that is the verdict of our oracle and the priests. They say that your country, however great, can never stop a trade ordained by God himself."

So deeply ingrained was the institution of slavery and the practice of slave trading in West and Central African society, that it took a further eight decades before the transatlantic trade in slaves was all but eliminated. Despite this, the African involvement as voluntary partners in the slave trade remains a well-kept secret. In the popular imagination Africa persists as the passive victim and Europe the perpetrator of this most heinous of trades. But in reality both bear the burden of responsibility and guilt.

Nigel Tattersfield is the author of *The Forgotten Trade* (Pimlico, £12.50)

CASE SUMMARIES

16 NOVEMBER 1998

THE FOLLOWING notes of judgments were prepared by the reporters of the All England Law Reports.

Criminal evidence

R v Taylor and another, CA (Crim Div) [Judge LJ, Sedley, Maurice Kay JJ] 27 Oct 1998.

It should be the standard national practice, where reliance was placed on a witness turning Queen's evidence, for the prosecution to offer to disclose the witness's convictions to the jury at the start of the trial, unless the defence invited them to do otherwise. A submission that the admission of those convictions prejudiced the witness, and the defendant by association, would not be accepted, as a professional criminal could otherwise set a premium on having a large number of convictions, and in the belief that evidence of his convictions would not be admitted, feel free to impugn prosecution witnesses.

Freddie Angel (Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for the appellant; Brian E. Jones (Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for the co-accused; Tim Clayton (CPS) for the Crown.

Costs

Mainwaring and another v Goldtech Investments Ltd; CA (Lord Gibson, Pill, Mummery LJ) 30 Oct 1998.

Where two orders for costs providing for costs to be taxed if not agreed had been made against M and L jointly and severally, and the taxation proceedings and certificates as against L had been set aside because the bills had not been served on him, the costs were also disallowed against M. The

effect of disallowing the costs against L under RSC Ord 62 r 28(4), combined with the operation of the common law rule with respect to a joint debt, meant that once L had been released by order of the court, M was also released from liability. Upon a nil taxation in accordance with the rules, the joint debt created by the order ceased to exist.

Statutory nuisance

Pearhouse v Birmingham CC; QBD (Div Ct) (Bingham LJ, Collins J) 4 Nov 1998.

Since s 82 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 was intended to provide a simple procedure for the private citizen to obtain redress if a statutory nuisance under s 79(1)(a) of the Act existed at the premises he occupied, unnecessary technicalities were not to be imposed. For the purposes of a notice served under s 82(6), any errors or any indication that it might not contain an exhaustive list of the defects complained of would not invalidate that notice because it was not for the tenant to prejudge the matter, but merely to draw to his landlord's attention what was troubling him.

Stephen Knafier (Graham Pearce & Co, Solicitors) for the appellant; Philip Coppel (Legal Services, Birmingham City Council) for the respondent.

Contingency fees

Hughes v Kingston upon Hull

CC; QBD (Div Ct) (Rose LJ, Mitchell J) 9 Nov 1998.

Once a magistrate had found that a contingency fee arrangement existed between a claimant and his solicitor, he was right to declare that the claimant was unable to seek an order for costs pursuant to s 82(12) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. It was clear from the case of *Suadin v Law Society* [1982] 2 All ER 827, which had not been cited to the court in *Thai Trading Co v Taylor* [1998] 3 All ER 65, that r 8(1) of the Solicitors Rules 1990 had the force of law, and that it precluded solicitors from entering into any arrangement to receive a fee payable only in the event of success.

Valerie Easty (Sydney Mitchell, Birmingham) for the appellant; James Findlay (Town Clerk, Kingston upon Hull CC) for the respondent.

Compulsory winding up

Re Inside Sport Ltd; Ch Div (Lightman J) 2 Nov 1998.

Where there was an ongoing voluntary liquidation and the main dispute between the parties was the identity of the person appointed as voluntary liquidator, the court should, when deciding whether to grant a petitioning creditor's application for a compulsory winding up order, bear in mind the alternative remedy of an application under s 171 of the Insolvency Act 1986 for the appointment of a fresh voluntary liquidator.

Hilary Stonefrost (Dibb Lupton Alsop) for the petitioner; Edward Francis (Wansboroughs Willey Hargrave) for the opposing creditors.

WORDS

CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE

fuddy duddy, n.

make me shake a leg. To hunt down words is surely more thrilling than a tab of Ecstasy - even when, as in this case, there is no defini-

itive answer to the origins of a phrase.

It surely has an echo of "fussy", if not the Cumberland dialect *duddy fuddiel*, a ragged fellow. It gained currency this century on both sides of the Atlantic - although in Maine the word is *fuddychud*. Meanwhile, slippers and open fire beckon.

GAZETTE

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Duke of Edinburgh, Founder and Chairman, chairs a meeting and holds a lunch for the trustees of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association at Buckingham Palace; and, as Senior Fellow, attends the Royal Academy of Engineering New Fellows' Dinner at Drapers' Hall, London EC2. The Prince of Wales, President, Royal Shakespeare Company, chairs the Annual Governors Meeting at the Other Place, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. The Duke of Kent visits Vannors Silk Weavers, Gregory Mills, Sudbury, Suffolk; and visits Shawlands Housing Estate, Great Cornard, Sudbury. Princess Alexandra participates in Motability's 21st Anniversary celebrations by handing over the keys of Motability's one millionth vehicle at the Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; No 7 Company Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Grenadier Guards.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

Mr W. X. Unsworth and Miss L. Sutherland. The engagement is announced between Bill, son of Mrs Unsworth, of Fritwell, Oxfordshire, and the late Dr Gerald Unsworth, and Linda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Eric Sutherland, of Cape Town, South Africa.

BIRTHDAYS

Professor Chinua Achebe, novelist, poet and educationist, 68; Mr Peter Ainsworth MP, 42; Mr Michael Billington, writer, critic and broadcaster, 59; Miss Lisa Bonet, actress, 31; Mr Frank Bruno, boxer, 37; Mr Willie Carson, jockey, 56; Mr Tony de Leeuw, composer, 72; Sir John Hanson, Warden, Green College, Oxford, 60; Sir Colin Marshall, chairman, British Airways, 65; Miss Joanna Pettet, actress, 54; Mr Griff Rhys Jones, actor and writer, 45; Sir Giles Shaw, former MP, 67; Mr John Stenhouse, former insurance broker, 90; Canon Herbert Stuart, Canon Emeritus, Lincoln Cathedral, 72; Sir Edward Tomkins, former ambassador, 83; Sir Magdi Yacoub, cardiothoracic surgeon, 63; Professor Michael Zander, Professor of Law, LSE, 65.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Tiberius, Roman emperor, 42 BC; Girolamo Abos, composer, 1715; Rodolphe Kreutzer, violinist and composer, 1766; Francis Danby, painter, 1793; William John Thoms, founder and editor of "Notes and Queries", 1885; Friedrich Wilhelm Kuckert, conductor and composer, 1810; John Bright, political reformer, 1811; William Frend de Morgan, artist and novelist, 1839; Alphonse-Marie Léon Daudet, author, 1867; William Christopher Handy, composer and cornetist, 1873; Aleksander Aleksandrovich Blok, poet, 1880; George Simon Kaufman, playwright, 1889; Michael Arlen (Dikran Kouyoumdjian), novelist, 1895; Paul Hindemith, viola player and composer, 1895; Sir Oswald Ernald Mosley, Fascist leader, 1896.

Deaths: Henry III, King, 1272; Perkin Warbeck, pretender to the throne, executed 1499; Gottfried Schalken, painter, 1706; Jack Sheppard, highwayman, hanged 1724; William Broume, poet and translator, 1745; Johann Lukas von Hildebrandt, architect, 1745; James Ferguson, astronomer, 1776; John Walker, founder of *The Times*, 1812; Karl Hess, painter, 1874; Louis Riel, leader of the Métis rebellion in Canada, hanged 1885; George Alfred Henry, author of books

for boys, 1902; Carl von Linde, chemist and engineer, 1934; Charles Maurras, writer and philosopher, 1952; William Clark Gable, actor, 1960; William Holden (William Franklin Beedle), actor, 1981; Arthur Bowden Askey, comedian, 1983.

On this day: the Swedish-German Protestant army forced the Catholic army under Count von Wallenstein to withdraw at Lützen, 1632; Westminster Bridge was formally opened, 1750; Washington was captured by British troops, 1776; Frederick Wilhelm III became King of Prussia, 1797; Hamilton Hume, explorer, discovered the Murray River, 1824; Krakow was annexed by Austria, 1846; the Holborn Empire, London, opened as Western's Music Hall, 1857; the Suez Canal was formally opened at Port Said, 1869; Amadeus, Duke of Austria, was elected King of Spain as Amadeo I, 1870; an Anglo-French condominium was set up over the New Hebrides, 1887; Dahomey became a protectorate of France, 1893; British Bechuanaland became a crown colony, 1895; Wyndham's Theatre, London, opened, 1899; the first cartoon film, *The Enchanted Drawing*, by the US artist James Stuart Blackton, appeared, 1900; Oklahoma became the 46th of the United States, 1907; in Budapest,

Hungary was proclaimed an independent republic, 1918; following a period of rampant inflation, a new currency system was introduced in Germany, 1923; Stanley Baldwin warned King Edward VIII that if he married Mrs Wallis Simpson he would offend public opinion and damage the prestige of the throne, 1936; the first London performance of the musical show *Appause* was presented, 1972; four Egyptian ships entered the Suez Canal; the first commercial vessels to use the canal since its 1967 closure, 1974.

Today is the Feast Day of St Afan, St Agnes of Assisi, St Edmund of Abingdon, St Eucherius of Lyons, St Gertrude of Helfta, St Margaret of Scotland, St Mechtildis of Helfta and St Nikon "Metanoite".

LECTURES

Victoria and Albert Museum: Charlotte Hubbard, "Woodcarving and the Museum Environment", 2pm.

British Museum: Dora Thornton, "Venetian Glass in the Renaissance", 11.30am. Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, London EC1: Dr Peter Fraser, "Work and Education: Caribbean migrations", 1pm; Professor Rudolf Klein, "Sir John Simon the Administrator", 5.30pm.

Student jobs take up two days a week

STUDENTS ARE spending the equivalent of two days a week working in part-time jobs to make ends meet, according to a survey by academics. As many as 30 universities now run recruitment agencies on their campuses.

Some students are even taking on full-time jobs on top of full-time university courses, according to research to be unveiled at a conference next month.

Academics fear that standards may fall because undergraduates spend too much time away from their books. They say some degree courses may have to be extended to cope with sharp increases in the numbers of students working their way through college.

A survey by researchers at the University of Central England found that more than 40 per cent of full-time undergraduates were holding down a part-time job, up from less than one-third three years ago. They believe that up to 70 per cent of students nationally may now be supplementing their income to help with the new

BY BEN RUSSELL
Education Correspondent

£1,000-a-year university tuition fees.

Lindsey Bowes, one of the researchers, said: "People are looking at 60 to 70 per cent of their full-time students working their way through university. There is evidence which suggests that this does have an impact on the student experience."

Student leaders warned that undergraduates faced a "stark choice between working to pay the rent and going to the library".

The survey, for the National Union of Students, estimates that as many as 80,000 students had regular part-time jobs. Andrew Pakes, NUS national president, said: "A lot of student jobs are not about transferable skills, they are stacking shelves or serving in bars and night-clubs and they are worked like donkeys."

"Outside London the Government reckons you can live on £3,500. You only have to look at rents to see the students have to work. The danger is that we are moving towards an

American-style system where students work through university, but that will damage the ethos of higher education and could be damaging to degrees."

Tom Wilson, head of higher education at the lecturers' union NAITFHE, which is organising next month's conference, said that there had been a sharp increase in the number of students forced to work to support their studies.

He said: "There is already evidence that it does have an impact on drop-out rates. It may be leading people to extend the length of their course and it could mean that students pass their degrees, but with a 2.2 rather than a 2.1."

At De Montfort University in Leicester, a commercial agency Workbank has placed more than 100 students in part-time jobs since the beginning of term. Mike Fettes, a former president of the university's students' union who now works for the agency, said: "With so many students now facing annual tuition fees [jobs] can bring in some much-needed extra cash without eating into study time."

'How yo-yos help me manage on a shoestring'

CAROLINE SHEPPARD, a marketing and law student, said a six-week spell marketing yo-yos was essential to help pay for her final year at university.

Miss Sheppard, a final-year student at De Montfort University, Leicester, has been working 12 to 20 hours a week to earn £600 to supplement her £900 grant and £1,200 student loan.

She got the job through a new employment agency on campus after returning with a large overdraft after a year travelling.

"My grant does not even cover my rent. With my student loans as well, I'm still left with a minus. Because I'm in my final year my social life is not huge, but the books alone cost £170. I'm working as well as studying full-time and [it] really is full-time. In a perfect world I would rather have the time to study, but the job does look good on my CV. It's quite a common thing for people to work but the course work is heavy as well."

"Unless your parents will support you at university you will have to work."



Caroline Sheppard



The Poseidon Fountain at Witley Court near Worcester, in the grounds of which up to 40 sculptures will be displayed

Andrew Fox

Art park to be set among ruins

A NEW sculpture park with £500,000-worth of modern British works is to be developed in historic parkland surrounding a beautiful ruined Victorian mansion.

The Jerwood Foundation, known for its prestigious annual prize for contemporary art, is joining forces with English Heritage for the venture at Witley Court near Worcester. It will be

BY LOUISE JURY

the third full-size sculpture park in Britain, after Yorkshire and Goodwood in West Sussex.

The first work which will be displayed is a bronze sculpture nearly seven feet high by the late Dame Elizabeth Frink called *Walking Man*, purchased for just over £30,000. The aim is to buy up to 40 works

over the next three years for the extensive grounds of Witley Court which are being restored. One-third of the sculptures will be by established artists, one-third by artists living and working in the West Midlands and the remainder by young sculptors. "I think it will sit well with our painting prize. It is a proper way of making a statement for

sculpture, creating a facility for people to see sculpture in a wonderful setting," said Alan Grieve, chairman and director of the Jerwood Foundation.

Witley Court was owned by a number of wealthy families from the early 17th century. The existing buildings, which are mainly Victorian, were destroyed by fire in 1937.

The sculpture park is part of

£7m capital expenditure planned by the foundation, set up to commemorate John Jerwood, a pearl dealer. It has not previously given capital grants. Other projects include an award of £900,000 to the Natural History Museum to restore a major gallery to display drawings, paintings and prints, and £1.4m to Trinity Hall, Cambridge, for a new Jerwood Library.

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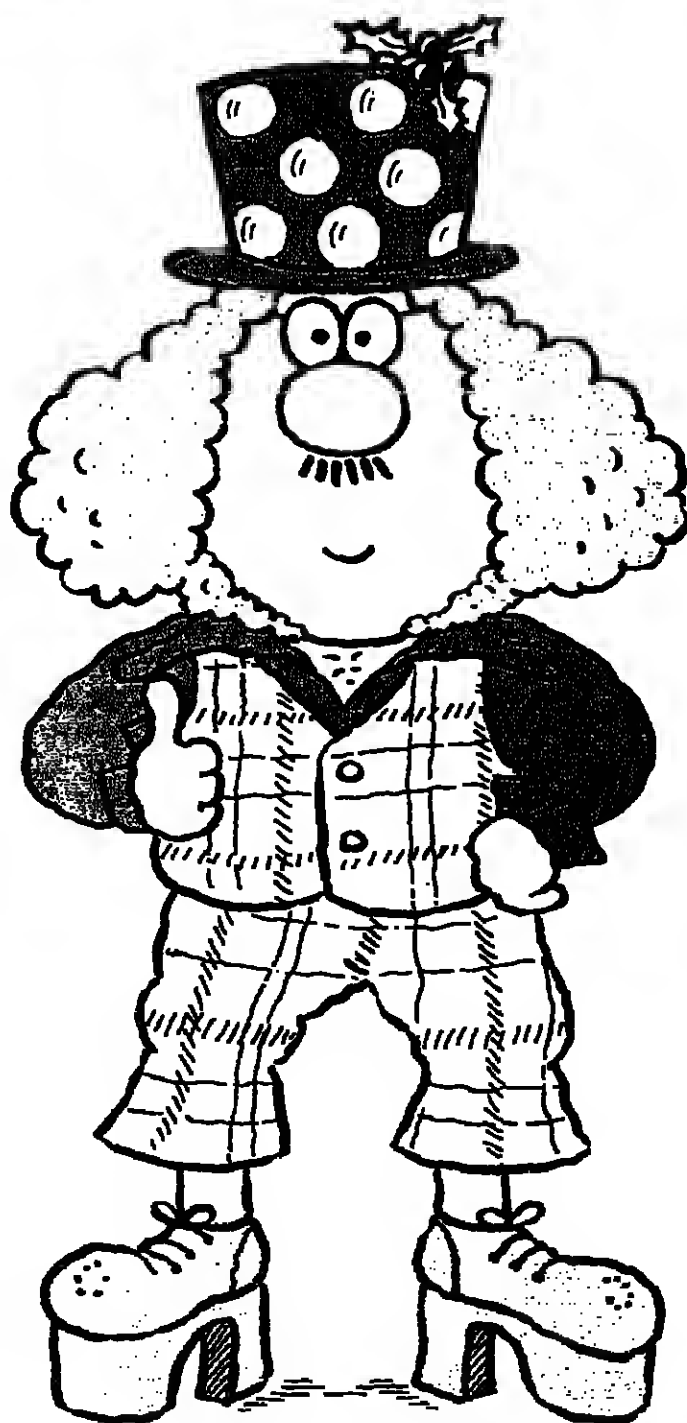
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Drinks wars start as store cuts prices

SUPERMARKET CHAIN Sainsbury's is slashing the price of beer and wines to win pre-Christmas business from cross-Channel "booze cruises".

The company hopes that by cutting prices on lager and other goods it will persuade shoppers that hopping over to France to stock up on festive supplies is not worth the trouble. The move, which includes cuts of £2 off a pack of 30 25cl Bierre de Moulins lagers, is likely to trigger a price war among other supermarkets before Christmas.

At £5.99, the 30-pack will still be more expensive than in France, but the supermarket says it will make cross-Channel shoppers think twice.

A spokesman said: "We are trying to show that people do not have to go to France to stock up for Christmas. Once they have paid for petrol, the ferry and everything else, they may as well stay here."

The Sainsbury's campaign is already being mirrored in pro-

BY JIM ARMITAGE

motions at Morrisons and Asda supermarkets on brands like Labatt's Ice, Tennent's Extra and Heineken Export.

Asda was today reported as being set to offer vintage Dom Perignon champagne at £49.99 a bottle instead of the usual £69.99. The retailing industry estimates cross-Channel sales account for 17 per cent of the beer drunk in Britain.

British-sold beer is subject to far higher duty levels than in France. Sainsbury's is backing its cheaper alcohol campaign with price cuts on turkeys and other festive foods.

European duty-free sales were worth more than £1bn to the UK last year - a 17% rise on the 1996 figure - and more than twice that for the next highest EU member - Finland. The statistics highlighted the need to fight next year's scrapping of duty-free and tax-free shopping, the Duty-Free Confederation said.

Siamese twins 'stable' after life-saving op

SIAMESE TWINS separated in an emergency operation to save their lives remained in a "stable" condition in hospital yesterday.

The four-day-old girls, who had been joined at the liver, are in intensive care at Great Ormond Street children's hospital, where a spokeswoman said they had spent "a peaceful day" following "a very settled night".

The girls, who come from the Bristol area, lie side by side on ventilators while they recover from their three-hour operation which took place on Saturday.

Their parents now face an anxious wait to learn whether the girls' encouraging first 36 hours will develop into a full recovery. The hospital refused to comment further on the girls' chances of survival, saying only that it was "early days after a very major operation".

"They are both still poorly but stable. They are still at a very critical stage and are being monitored carefully," the spokeswoman said. "We are

BY KAREN EDWARDS

looking forward to a second settled night."

The twins were "unstable" during the operation at the London hospital and needed "external cardiac massage" to restart their hearts. Now they are receiving round-the-clock care from a team of specialist doctors and nurses.

Their father said: "We have been worried through the pregnancy, but during the operation we felt very confident in the surgeons and that everything possible was being done. We are now very anxious - waiting to see how the twins get on is very difficult."

A team of surgeons and anaesthetists carried out the emergency operation after the twins - who were born on Thursday - were airlifted to London from St Michael's Hospital in Bristol by a RAF helicopter on Friday afternoon after it was found that they were suffering from peritonitis.

Chilly touch in theatre of cruelty

THE FINAL scene of Alban Berg's *Wozzeck* is like a mighty inflection in the chronicle of 20th-century music. It would seem to be the very point at which Mahler hands over his hard-won inheritance to Berg. Christoph von Dohnanyi's Philharmonia concert series "Mahler and Vienna: Beginnings and Endings" seemed to begin and end there on Saturday night. It was one of several moments in this expensively cast and painstakingly prepared concert performance of Berg's opera which revealed Dohnanyi's reading for what it was: a fiercely objective but ultimately heartless account of this magnificent score.

The expressionist nightmare, the eternal "Scream" of

FIRST NIGHT

WOZZECK
PHILHARMONIA
ORCHESTRA/DOHNANYI
ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
LONDON

Edward Munch's notorious painting, is inside the hapless *Wozzeck*'s head. Berg's orchestra is a lurid canvas of insanity, hallucination, and man's inhumanity to man. Only a solo horn dares to dream.

But perhaps the most remarkable feature of Berg's awesomely complex score is that it is achieved within the disciplines of strict compositional procedures. For method in madness, Dohnanyi is your

man. A fearlessly accomplished Philharmonia Orchestra laid bare the viscera of the score with ruthless clarity.

But there's much more to Berg's (and the playwright Buchner's) theatre of cruelty: An underlying compassion which surfaces only fleetingly during the course of this bad dream, but which sublimates in that great D minor interlude.

That Dohnanyi made so little of the great crescendo leading to its point of release was to me symptomatic of an emotional and theatrical frigidity at the moment where the opposite must be true. Just as the two mighty crescendos following the death of Marie serve as stark and shocking, so must this untimely climax

carry with it the entire opera's heartache. It didn't.

That burden fell to Franz Hawlata's *Wozzeck*, beautifully conveying the dementia which so paradoxically makes this simple man articulate. And to Deborah Polaski's Marie, so alive to the spirit and drama of the text. In Berg's gallery of grotesques, Eric Halfvarson's shaven-headed Doctor looked and sounded like his surname might be Death, while the Captain was, in Graham Clark's incisive performance, the personification of hypertension, the tessitura of the vocal line suggesting his scrawny neck stretched for *Wozzeck*'s razor like a Ralph Steadman caricature. Now there's a thought.

Edward Seckerson

THIS WAS THE
WEEK THAT WAS

Today On this day, 70 years ago, the lesbian classic, *The Well of Loneliness*, by Radclyffe Hall, was declared obscene and copies condemned to be burnt; later, it was thought tame enough for the *R4 Book at Bedtime* slot. In 1959, *The Sound of Music* opened on Broadway, not being silenced until 1,442 performances later.

Tomorrow Auguste Rodin died in 1917; the creator of *The Kiss* and *The Thinker* had failed the entrance exam to the École des Beaux-Arts three times and briefly became a trainee monk. The manuscript of *The Trial* was sold for £1m in 1988, to the annoyance of the ghost of unlucky Franz Kafka, who had died in poverty.

Wednesday In 1915, Audrey Munson, star of the movie *Inspiration*, beat Demi Moore to become the first leading lady to get her kit off, although she later branched out into roles that involved keeping her clothes on.

Thursday Count Anthony Matthioli, believed to have been the original for Alexandre Dumas's *The Man in the Iron Mask*, died in 1703. The recent film of the novel might also have benefited from being locked in the Bastille.

Friday In 1805, *Fidelio* opened in Vienna; it didn't help that Austria was currently under enemy occupation, that Beethoven was the third composer to have a shot at the libretto, and that the opera had to be extensively revised. Otherwise, Ludwig, a wonderful night.

Saturday René Magritte, born a century ago, could not answer the question: "How many Surrealists does it take to change a lightbulb?" (A fish.)

Sunday Mae West, showbiz legend who gave her name to the lifebelt, died in 1960. JONATHAN SALES

Tango with strings attached

When a Buenos Aires bandoneon player teams up in a monastery with a leading European string quartet, you'd expect two worlds to collide. But then Dino Saluzzi has never been averse to a bit of the other. By Phil Johnson

It may take two to tango, but the partnership of Dino Saluzzi and the Rosamunde Quartet is hardly a conventional pairing. The 63-year-old Argentinian bandoneon player (it's a bigger, tango version of the button accordion), is a master improviser who is used to flying by the seat of his pants, despite his background in "serious" music. By contrast, the Munich-based string quartet are specialists in the 20th-century European classical repertoire, and therefore accustomed to playing from dots on the page.

It's an intriguing mix of cultural opposites, and one which highlights the contradictions underpinning the current popularity in the classical world of a music which began in the proletarian bars of Buenos Aires amid, as the great Argentinian writer Jorge Luis Borges wrote in his poem "The Tango": "A mythology of knife thrusts/slowly dying in oblivion". A further element is provided by the context for the project, which is an album for the German ECM label, an imprint whose reputation for crystalline purity of sound is perhaps as much of an influence on its recordings as the contributions of the performers themselves. Tango squeezebox meets high-art string quartet in the glacier of an ECM soundscape is quite a combination. To complicate matters even further, the bandoneon actually derives from the Ruhr region of Germany, where it was invented by one Heinrich Band in 1846, and later taken to Argentina by German emigrants.

The way Dino Saluzzi and the Rosamundes talk about *Kultur*, their new album of tango variations, speaks volumes. The members of the quartet sit up straight and are punctilious in their attention to questions, while Saluzzi slouches and tends to favour grand Latin shrugs and gestures. The Rosamundes think seriously about music, their non-verbal communication seems to say, but for Saluzzi, it just is.

"It's our responsibility to create, to move, to give life," he says. "It's not technical. The technique is the first point; after this comes the art." "Dino just plays what he wants, and we see from his face if what we do is wrong," says Anja Lechner, the quartet's cellist, who has prior ex-



The Rosamunde Quartet and Dino Saluzzi: 'It's our responsibility to create, to move, to give life'



Roberto Masotti/Juan Hitters

perience of tango, having made four albums in the past. It's true that the quartet's English is better than Saluzzi's, but there's still a world of difference between them.

By the age of 14 Saluzzi (who, like much of tango itself, is of Sicilian descent), was already leading his first band, in the Salta province of Northern Argentina where he grew up. After studying in Buenos Aires he assisted his friend, the late, great composer Astor Piazzola in the formation of "Tango Nuevo", and also played in the group of the jazz saxophonist Gato Barbieri.

Later, as an exile in Europe, Saluzzi recorded for ECM with jazz musicians such as Charlie Haden and Don Cherry, pioneering a superior kind of "world music" mixing disparate folk forms with jazz. It was at a tango concert in Munich in 1984 that Anja Lechner saw Saluzzi play for the first time and decided that she would love to work with him one day, although the prospect seemed unlikely.

Happily the album Saluzzi and the quartet have made together adds up to more than just the sum of their parts. Instead, a strange sort of cross-cultural transference appears to have taken place. As the series of variations unfolds, the strings sound more and more impassioned, while the composer himself is uncharacteristically restrained until space is cleared for the improvised cadenzas which are neatly woven into each piece. Here, Saluzzi is suddenly set free, and the sounds of his instrument - which are incredibly diverse, at times suggesting a clarinet, or seeming to duplicate the violin, viola or cello of the quartet - soar into flight.

It is a process which is reinforced when the musicians perform in the church of the monastery of St Gerold's in the foothills of the Austrian Tyrol, where the album was recorded earlier this year. This is no ordinary venue: it is where Jan Garbarek and the Hilliard Ensemble's ECM album *Officium* - which has

sold 850,000 copies to date - was recorded in 1994, and in the spacious acoustic of the building Saluzzi's music really comes alive. It may be a long way from the bars of Buenos Aires, but the woody bloom of the strings fills the church and mixes most effectively with the breathy timbres of the bandoneon, whose wheezing between notes can be heard in the quietest moments. Unlike most other "fusion" projects, this one actually works as music rather than marketing.

"I hate fusion and this crossover nonsense," says Manfred Eicher of ECM, who has produced every release on the label since its formation in 1969. "There has always been cultural interaction between different styles, and these terms don't mean anything to me. We have chosen a string quartet, but it's not a fusion; it's coming out of Dino Saluzzi's own ideas and his previous solo work. It comes from the same genre, the same creator."

The idea of a specific ECM sound

or aesthetic is something that Eicher dismisses: "People often talk in clichés. What I think the ECM sound is, is more to do with the choice of musicians in the catalogue. It also has had a lot to do with my love of chamber music, and a poetic approach to music. My preference is towards music which has to do with transparency, with the movements of sound, but also with pauses and silence. It's not only the notes, but the thought behind them that sculpts sound, transforming what we hear in a church into a manifestation for the listener, who hopefully trusts this result of musicians, sound engineer and producer, since everyone listens to music with their own ears."

More likely to quote Goethe than to discuss the positioning of microphones, Eicher makes mysticism seem almost mundane. "It's the white space, the empty space between the tones, that's the inspirational source," he says, before going off to rehearse the musicians for their performance.

At the press conference, Saluzzi is growing more animated by the minute. "We have to be true to the idea of the simple people," he says in answer to a question about the album's mix of cultures. "Why make our territorial claim against someone else? We have to wake up to the human being more, to remain true to our dreams and our utopias, for our job is nothing if it is only for us." The members of the quartet nod seriously in agreement, although in truth, it is not easy to see what Saluzzi is on about. That morning, as the sun suddenly comes out and lights up the snowcapped mountains in a manner reminiscent of Caspar David Friedrich - a stunning manifestation of the ECM aesthetic that is supposed not to exist - Manfred Eicher dispatches a photographer to record the moment. Some day it might appear as an ECM cover.

'Kultur' by Dino Saluzzi and the Rosamunde String Quartet is out now on ECM

A Seventies night devoid of glam

THEATRE

SHANG-A-LANG
THE BUSH, LONDON

AS A PLACE to wake up with a hangover in the early hours of your 40th birthday, the crazy golf course at Butlin's, Minehead, during a glam rock Seventies weekend in November would surely seem to fall short of the ideal. That's the fate, though, of Pauline (Nicola Redmond) in Catherine Johnson's new play, *Shang-a-Lang*.

Pauline's two best friends since schooldays - uptight family woman Jackie (Joanne Pearce) and the cheerfully slutty Lauren (Ona McCracken) who has abandoned her kids for a life of older and sex - have got off for the night with a couple of the Afro-wigged, black-greasepainted backing musicians in a soul tribute band. That, too, might not seem like the acme of human happiness. But for locked-out Pauline (unmarried, childless, her biological clock ticking loud enough to waken the dead), it would have been a start.

This show does for unreconstructed Bay City Roller



For unreconstructed Rollers fans only Geraint Lewis

fans what *Women on the Verge of HRT* did for the dotting aficionados of Daniel O'Donnell. Plays by female dramatists which deposit middle-aged women on weekend jaunts to see their idols tend to have two salient characteristics. Firstly, the women define themselves entirely in terms of sex (or the lack of it) and husbands (or the lack of them). And so, secondly, you feel that if a man had written such a piece, he would be howled down by feminists for patronising womankind.

In trying to question the inevitability of all this, through the character of Pauline, Johnson's play nonetheless falls into heavily predictable patterns. The

best night of her life, Pauline reveals, was when, as a teenager, she managed to clamber into the Bay City Rollers' van after a gig and snogged Woody. You brace yourself, from then on, for the moment at the end when Pauline will demonstrate a new-found maturity by rejecting Woody as a hampering fantasy. It's also par for the course that this breakthrough will be achieved by having her flusters about her friends shattered. Boasting a monopoly on sentimental unhappiness, Pauline has failed to see that Jackie's marriage is quietly wrecked and that Lauren really is guilt-free about ditching her children. The play is, however, con-

sistently engaging and often very funny. Helped by Mike Bradwell's buoyant, well-acted production, it takes a likeably breezy, no-nonsense attitude to the tacky horror of these occasions which it presents with a chipper explicitness. Excellently played by Peter Jonfield and Stephen Graham, the tribute musicians (one a Sad Sack with custody worries; the other a horny little swaggetter) don't even bother to wash their black greasepaint off before bedding the women, which results in a revoltingly pyrrhic nude moment when they get up amid the vomit and glam detritus the next morning. The play pulls you into the bloody awfulness of performing "covers" in a holiday camp as a fate. But there is always somebody worse off. Suppose you earned a crust impersonating Garry Glitter. "Poor old Gazza - his fucking tribute band's fucked," declares Carl with relish.

A sign at the door of the Bush says that some people may find offence in the language, situations, fashions, and music. If I were a former Roller, I'd sue. To 12 December: Box office 0181 743 3388

PAUL TAYLOR

Poor Elvis, he never stood a chance

JAZZ

JOE LOVANO/
JOSHUA REDMAN
BARBICAN, LONDON

year with a residency that few present will forget. Joshua Redman - son of Sixties Free Jazz saxophonist Dewey Redman - was destined to become a jazz star. Add the name to a lithe, sinewy tone, doe-eyed good looks and a penchant for bluesy, accessible note-picking and you get as close as this minority music can to an A&R wet room.

Lovano was on first. It's a rare musical presence that can give the cavernous Barbican Hall such an electric atmosphere, but from the very first, complicated headlong tumble of

notes, it was clear that Lovano's repertoire is built upon granite foundations.

His hour-long set was on a constant knife-edge of drama - drummer Idris Muhammad's tricky stop-start pulse providing a nervy backdrop to Lovano's wired style. There was a gorgeous ballad (in which Lovano seemed to nod to swing roots - Al Cohn and Zoot Sims), and some intense work on the unusual alto clarinet. But Lovano was all about spontaneity and the joys of improvisation, and he could have kept us transfixed all night.

Not even Elvis Presley, live at the Barbican with news from Lord Lucan and Princess Diana, could have followed Lovano with ease. Joshua Redman made a surprisingly game

attempt, relying less on his usual soulfulness and grace, and working up the Barbican audience with circular breathing, a cathedral reverberation, and throwing in the odd brutal drum solo to make the auditorium's monkey contingent scream.

It was a slick and well-rehearsed quartet, reworking standards (a Joni Mitchell tune and "Love for Sale", split cleverly into seven and six time). Pianist Aaron Goldberg played a heroic solo on "Eleanor Rigby", after Redman had picked up a soprano sax and turned the performance into something consciously reminiscent of the Coltrane Quartet. All exciting enough, but it will be Lovano who will be best remembered in the morning.

LINTON CRUSWICK

THE INDEPENDENT

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TOKEN COLLECT

Stand up, Britain's Spike Lee

Black British film-makers struggle for backing. Minority audience, say distributors. But good writing is good writing, isn't it? By Lesley Downer

Ngozi Onwurah is regaling a panel of five commissioning editors at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) with the tale of Utende, a young girl who flees war-torn Biafra and ends up in Newcastle. "And as Rud Gullit is going to find out," she adds wryly, "Newcastle in the winter is a very strange place for a black person to be."

Cold, miserable and bullied, Utende finally finds happiness through horses. At the moment, *Utende's Gymkhana*, is no more than a script idea; though, if Onwurah is lucky, it may one day be a film.

Black actors frequently complain that there are few parts for them and those there are tend to be stereotyped. The problem boils down to scripts. Ninety per cent, as one casting director put it, are written by white, middle-class men who write parts for white, middle-class men. Where are the black scriptwriters creating stories featuring complex and varied black characters? Where are the black sitcoms and the black feature films? Why do we not have a British Spike Lee or Denzel Washington? These were among the issues which Black Talent of the Future, a day long event at BAFTA recently, set out to confront.

Unlike America, where black people have been around as long as, if not longer, than most whites, Britain is just beginning to come to terms with the notion of being a multicultural society. Most of the budding scriptwriters at BAFTA today are first-generation British; their parents arrived as immigrants from the Caribbean, Africa or Asia. This means that there are no role models, nor an older generation of black scriptwriters for them to follow. Pioneers, breaking new ground, what most want is to claim their heritage as Britons - to be seen as film-makers, not black film-makers.

But so far, few have had the chance to show what they can do.



Film-makers, not black film-makers: clockwise from bottom left, Alrick Riley, Treva Etienne and Riley's 'The Cops'

While the first part of the event was talent-spotting (with a prize of £1000 each for two winners, and the chance to have their script made into a film), the second was a showcase for completed films by black film-makers, most of which were shorts because of the difficulty encountered in getting funding.

Most were made on a shoestring, with the cast and crew giving their services for nothing. *The Wedding*, by Marcia Green, who is still at film school, is a witty look at the experience of feeling and being British while looking black. *Veena's Drink Up*, a very funny film about sex, lies and mobile phones, was made by 26-year-old Adrian Brown with a bank loan of £4,000. Alrick Riley's first film, *Money Talks*, made while he was at film school, was shown at 17 international film festivals and won several prizes. He topped up his prize money to £21,000 to make his second feature, *Concrete Garden*, a touching story about a Jamaican child who arrives in a cold corner of Britain to live with parents she has never known, and a little brother she didn't know existed.

But is it really more difficult for black film-makers than for any other young hopefuls to break through?

Says Riley: "One distributor told me to my face that if he hears of a black project, he quite simply says, 'No way'. They can't gauge what kind of money it's going to make. It's very difficult for them to make what is, as far as they're concerned, the leap of faith into the unknown in order to bankroll a black movie. People have an expectation when they first see me that I'm only going to want to do black subjects."

The people with their hands on the purse strings - commissioners, distributors and producers - have to be sure that they are going to get a return on their investment. They assume that a black writer or director can only tell black stories, about black issues, featuring black actors, and fear that a film set in the black community will be of limited interest to anyone else. In a word, it will not make money.

Jan Oliver, assistant to Mark Thompson, controller of BBC2, is one of the organisers of the event. "It's the content, the kinds of stories black people want to tell - what happened to us, being born in this country and brought up in this country. Our problem in TV is that middle England is our main audience. If they never see black people, why should they want to watch programmes about them?"

There are plenty of films about the black-American experience. As Spike Lee and other directors have shown, if a film is good, audiences will go and see it, whether the actors are black, white or purple. No one disputes the fascination which black culture exerts; its tremendous influence on music, street culture

and street language. So why should we not be interested in black films? In any case, there is no reason why, just because a scriptwriter is black, he should restrict himself to black subjects. Alrick Riley is a case in point. Now 36, he has written a drama, *Choices*, about gang warfare in north London, and directed three episodes of *The Cops* (one of them transmitting tonight), a realistic look at the police with no black angle at all.

The first hurdle is money. But even when that is overcome, there is a second obstacle: distribution. The longest and most ambitious film of the BAFTA evening was *Monument*, directed by Patrick Robinson (Ash in *Casualty*). It's about a journalist and oenocaster who discovers that the wreck of a slave ship has been found in the Bristol Channel.

Monument was broadcast on ITV but has yet to receive a wider showing. Turned down by the Edinburgh and London Film Festivals, it has little chance of being seen by a wide audience. Rather like the journalist in his film, Robinson feels that he is banging his head against a brick wall.

"There's so much talent out there that is not getting the opportunities," he says. "I can't help but think that it can only be because we're black and that they have only got a certain amount of allocated spaces for blacks... It gets put into a multi-cultural slot or a late-night slot, not prime time or mainstream. My film is not a black film, it's just a film. We're not talking about black writing, we're just talking about good writing."

Tonight sees the start of a new series of *Return of the Ba Ba Zee*, a showcase for films and documentaries by black film-makers, scheduled inevitably for 11 pm. It includes two films by the actor, Treva Etienne, who starred in the popular TV series, *London's Burning*, and the award-winning BBC3 drama, *Holding On*. Driving Miss Crazy and A Woman Scorned, both funny and very sophisticated looks inside the female psyche, were made for a total of £8000 "plus a lot of favours" and have had no showing apart from at the BAFTA event.

Says Etienne: "America is a lot more open to the British ethnic voice - it's fresh, it's not something that they've seen before. In this country, we're still getting to grips with the idea that people from different ethnic backgrounds can make films. We haven't really had a commercial success with an ethnic film from this country. We need a *Four Weddings*... or a *Crying Game* or a *Full Monty* to open the door in order to get people interested in the idea of investing more in films by black film-makers."

So who will be the British Spike Lee? Hopefully it can only be a matter of time before one of these ambitious young film-makers gets the opportunity to break into the mainstream and create the great black British movie.

Return of the Ba Ba Zee is on Channel 4 at 11pm tonight and on Monday nights for the next four weeks. Episodes 4, 5 and 6 of *The Cops*, directed by Alrick Riley, are currently showing on Monday nights at 9 pm on BBC2, repeated on Saturdays at 11.15pm; episode 5 is tonight

TV VIDEOWATCH

MIKE HIGGINS

'I'm Alan Partridge', Vols 1 & 2, £12.99 each

HOLED UP in a motorway travel lodge, his chat show canned and his wife departed, Alan Partridge is, as he might put it, up a creek without a mid-sized outboard: the Travel Tavern receptionist can only stifle a snigger when he tells her what vandals have scrawled on his beloved Ford Granada; the BBC commissioning editor is unmoved by Alan's ideas for re-launching his television career (whatever its educational benefits, *Knowing M.E., Knowing You* is a non-starter).

In fact, so minutely is Partridge's personal and profes-



sional hell detailed that you're well into the second of the six episodes before it dawns on you how radically different this second Partridge vehicle is from the first *Knowing Me, Knowing You*.

You. That set itself up as a chat show, in which Alan never lost an opportunity to upstage, humiliate or enrage his guests with his golf-chub bar prejudices and fairway wisdom. Those involved may have been fictional but there was a hilarious, ghastly truth in the jibes and stilted bon mots that Partridge traded with the D-list celebrities that graced his sofa.

Knowing Me, Knowing You set its sights as much on the chat show as did the feckless Alan. I'm Alan Partridge gives him oodles to hide, however, placing Alan in a more traditional sit-com setting. There's a bit of media leg-pulling as we see the depths to which Alan

has descended, hosting his early morning Norwich radio show, *Up With The Partridge*. But, for the most part, the series rests on Steve Coogan's superb performance and the well-handled development of Alan from a classic grotesque to something (God forbid) slightly more sympathetic.

He's still as monstrous as ever, abusing his personal assistant and mercilessly patronising everyone who makes the mistake of talking to him for more than 30 seconds. However, you always felt that Coogan had a sneaky liking for his finest creation and occasionally you even end up feeling sorry for him.

To bloop or not to bloop?

A new CD of radio cock-ups isn't as funny as it might be. By Robert Hanks

HOWLERS, TYPOS and malapropisms have always been a source of entertainment; but the last couple of decades have seen a dramatic rise in our consumption of them, particularly on television. No doubt this is partly a matter of economics - out-takes are pretty cheap, and I can't imagine it costs that much to hire Denis Norden for the evening. Perhaps, too, it says something about the decline of deference, our eagerness to see even minor authority figures, such as newsreaders and weathermen, caught with their pants down. More optimistically, it may say something about an increased public tolerance for fallibility, because, as often as not, it is shared embarrassment rather than pure *schadenfreude* which prompts us to laugh at mistakes and accidents.

All of these factors play a part in *Bloopers Gold*, a CD compilation of "classic" radio moments being sold in aid of the British Wireless for the Blind Fund, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. Unfortunately, Jonathan Hewat, who has compiled, produced and presents the entire thing, has not given much thought to what it is that makes a "blooper" funny. This has two results: one is that his commentary, with its relent-



Brian Johnston: celebrated giggling commentator

less facetious "Dear, oh dear" tone of voice, too often undermines the rather sad humour of the piece. There is nothing intrinsically amusing about hearing a newsreader suffering a fit of the giggles over the Rev Canon Banana (not unless you are under 10); it is the crack in the façade, the unintended admission of frailty, which makes it rather sweet.

The other, more damaging result is that he has chosen a lot of bloopers which just aren't funny. Too many of these revolve round double (or near double) entendres: a woman called Regina, a rowing cox, and more quips about balls than you could shake a stick at. (You would think that sports commentators would work through the humorous possibilities of balls at a very early stage in their careers. You would be sadly mistaken.) In some cases, the simple inability to pronounce a word is supposed to be the cue for humour, but this doesn't always work - for instance, "invalidity benefit" is such an inherently unfunny coocept that no amount of stammering and gibbering can change it.

Some of the other extracts here do not involve things going wrong at all. One of these is the hysterically triumphant Norwegian football commentator ("Maggie Thatcher! Can you hear me? Maggie Thatcher! Your boys took a hell of a beating!" - not that anybody will be unhappy to own a copy of this extraordinary moment. Apart from anything else, you can take the time to replay it, and wonder exactly why he invoked

Anthony Eden and Clement Attlee as champions of Albion. The one unquestioned classic here is the great Hastings Banda interview, in which the future dictator of Malawi answers each question with a confident "I won't tell you that". "Are you going to tell me anything?" "Nothing." "Are you going to tell me why you've been to Portugal?" "That's my business." It is a masterpiece of patient inquiry to compare with Paxman's grilling of Michael Howard. Elsewhere, there is one perfectly-timed belch, a reference to Eric Cantona's fracas with a Crystal Palace fan, Brian Johnston giggling, and a quiz competitor asked who wrote *Mein Kampf*; heavy hinting helps him to work out that the first name is Adolf and the first syllable of the surname is Hilt, but he still can't quite put his finger on it.

Of course, the real difficulty with marketing this CD is that these days you can get all the bloopers you want for free just by listening to the BBC radio news. Ah well, it is for charity.

To order 'Bloopers Gold' or 'Bloopers Silver', send a cheque for £8.99, payable to '26 Design', to Bloopers Gold CD, BWFB, Gabriel House, 34 New Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4QR

THE RATINGS

BBC 2		ITV	
Programme	Total (millions)	Programme	Total (millions)
1 Have I Got News For You?	5.97	1 Coronation St (Wed)	17.89
2 The Simpsons (Mon 18.20)	4.58	2 Coronation St (Mon)	17.47
3 The Simpsons (Tue)	4.55	3 Coronation St (Fri)	17.19
4 The Cops	4.24	4 Coronation St (Sun)	16.81
5 The Simpsons (Mon 18.00)	4.17	5 Heartbeat	14.64
6 Geoff Hamilton's Gardens	4.16	6 Emmerdale (Tue/Wed)	13.14
7 The Natural World	4.13	7 Emmerdale (Thu)	12.05
8 Delia's How To Cook	4.04	8 Emmerdale (Wed)	11.87
9 The Simpsons (Fri)	4.00	9 Grafters	11.49
10 Blackadder Goes Forth	3.68	10 National TV Awards	10.90

Gratifying to see Delia Smith's ratings boiled by Marge, Homer and the kiddywinks. Not to mention Ian Hislop.

Still, nothing in TV land can bold a tallow lamp to *Corrie* - not even *Divorces From Hell* (No 15 with a silver bullet)

EN

The Barber of Seville

Rossini

An evening to raise the spirits
Sunday Telegraph

November 25 | 28
December 1 | 31 | 10
January 19 | 22 | 26 | 28 | 30
February 4 | 11 at 7.30pm
Ticket: from £5
Box Office 0171 632 8300
24 hours

NETWORK

But it's only a game...

The BBFC says a new video game is too violent. The rest of the world disagrees. By Matthew Burgess

Successful UK software publisher SCI is squaring up to the British Board of Film Classification for what could be an important test case for video-games censorship. The BBFC has been stonewalling SCI over the certification of its latest PC title, Carmageddon 2: Carcarnage Now. SCI is taking legal action to force a decision on the game, a demo of which has now been with the BBFC for almost three months.

Carmageddon 2 is a driving game with a difference - the player is encouraged to mow down hapless pedestrians and ram opponents off the road. It's undeniably violent, but the violence is of the tongue-in-cheek variety that can trace its lineage back to the Acme explosives and falling pianos of

Fifties cartoons. With its heavy-metal soundtrack and pneumatic female characters, the game is adolescence encapsulated, which begs the question: why has it been taken so seriously by adults?

The BBFC's objection to Carmageddon 2 is that it may cause "damage" to children exposed to the game. It claims the latest reason for the certifying delay is that it wants to put the demo to a panel of "child psychologists" to determine the extent of such "damage".

Jane Cavanagh, chief executive of SCI, described this decision as "ludicrous": "We're requesting an 18 certificate, which means this version is designed for adults. The original has sold 600,000 copies throughout the world. Nobody has been 'damaged'. On the contrary, we've received sac-

loads of letters saying how much everyone loves the game and how entertaining it is."

SCI experienced similar problems last year with the first Carmageddon. The BBFC refused to issue a certificate, thus "banning" the sale of the game in the UK. SCI appealed against the decision under Article 10a of the European Convention of Human Rights and successfully overturned the "ban", the BBFC instructed to grant an 18 certificate.

"This repeat performance of last year's delaying tactics can only be a result of severe 'sour grapes' at the BBFC for losing the appeal last year," Cavanagh said. "Why don't they just accept they made a mistake and move on?"

The repeated delays have forced SCI to release a version of the game with green blood

and zombies rather than red-blooded pedestrians. This has been given a 15 rating by the European Leisure and Software Publishers Association (ELSPA), the game industry's self-regulatory body, which is supervised by the Video Standards Council. Interviewed in

industry journal, CTW, Roger Bennett, general secretary of ELSPA, blasted the BBFC as being "patently inefficient" and "very difficult to communicate with". Bennett thinks that game regulation should be dealt with entirely by the Video Standards Council.

"We believe that the VSC have been extremely successful at rating the 94 per cent of games published since 1994. There has been just one complaint in that time. Given our stated beliefs about the BBFC, we really do believe that the VSC are both better equipped and qualified to rate all games - their track record speaks for itself."

The BBFC's decision, when it eventually arrives, will be largely irrelevant to any UK gamer who wants to play the uncensored version. With the international release of Carmageddon 2, SCI posted several "patches" on its international Carmageddon 2 support Web site (based in America). With these patches, players can alter various aspects of the game, including the transformation of

zombies into pedestrians. Within the first day of the game's UK release, thousands of players downloaded the patches.

"The patches are text files, not moving images, and they are available free of charge from a US-based Internet server [http://www.carmageddon.com]. Cavanagh said, "These points alone take any 'patch' out of the jurisdiction of the UK's Video Recordings Act and, therefore, the scope of the BBFC. Apart from that, there are some 50 million Internet users throughout the world with no electronic territorial boundaries. It makes censorship on a country-by-country basis impossible for a national-based organisation."

The BBFC's unwillingness to explain or account for its actions indicates that its censor-

ship decisions do not seem totally fair. Compare the delaying tactics on Carmageddon 2 with the preferential treatment handed out to Hollywood blockbusters. Tim Burton's *Batman* received a new certificate (12) rather than lose a lot of its audience to the 15 certificate that its violence merited. *Jurassic Park*, and its sequel, *The Lost World*, were also allowed to bend the rules, obtaining a PG certificate on the proviso that posters warned children of their "disturbing scenes".

In the added light of the recent decision by Australia's conservative Office of Film and Literature Classification to award the "full gore" version of Carmageddon 2 a 15 certification, the BBFC's stance is looking at best unreasonable, at worst childish.



The BBFC is concerned that Carmageddon 2 may cause 'damage' to the children who play it



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BYTES

ANDY OLDFIELD

LAST WEEK, Netscape Communications entered a fresh market with the announcement of new Netcenter services and software. BillerKper, to enable companies to process payments over the Net. Netscape says its software allows companies such as banks, telecommunications and domestic utility service providers not only to save on billing costs by using e-mail and the Internet, but also to strengthen links with customers by letting them change and configure their own services.

As part of its initiative to strengthen the appeal of Netcenter to small businesses, Netscape said it is buying AlWeb, a provider of products and web-design management and marketing services to small and independent businesses. The acquisition will help integrate 600,000 small business websites with Netcenter's installed user base of 70 million. Netscape hopes to complete the acquisition in a stock deal by the end of 1999's first quarter.

MICROSOFT AND Qualcomm have each invested \$25m to form a joint company, WireLess Knowledge, aimed at expanding the availability of digital information over wireless devices, including telephones and handheld appliances. Cellphone operators in the US such as AT&T, BellSouth and Sprint have agreed to support the data service which could be in operation by April.

WireLess Knowledge aims to integrate different wireless networks and different devices through a network operating centre, allowing people to use digital phones, Windows-based desktop computers, and Windows CE-based handheld devices to connect to the Internet and corporate networks using Microsoft software. Microsoft and Qualcomm also said they will work to incorporate Windows CE

into a forthcoming custom chip that Qualcomm can use in cell phone designs. They will also co-operate on integrating Windows CE into a variety of wireless devices.

APPLE AIMS to have a new version of QuickTime ready for release in January, expected to facilitate live audio and video streaming over the Internet and allow Apple to compete on features with Microsoft's NetShow streaming software. Despite current limitations, QuickTime is still installed in nearly 70 per cent of Windows PCs. Meanwhile, Microsoft has released a patch to fix the support of QuickTime in its Windows media player. It said that it had not deliberately disabled the software, as alleged in the anti-trust case currently under way, but that the fault lay in bad programming and faulty design by Apple.

E-COMMERCE IN Britain received a boost last week with the opening of UK versions of two online travel sites. Microsoft's Expedia, <http://expedia.msn.co.uk> and Travelocity, <http://www.travelocity.co.uk>, are both successful American sites tailoring their services for the British market. In the US, Expedia has sold one million tickets in two years, while Travelocity has sold 2.5 million and reports month-on-month sales rises of 37 per cent.

IBM last Wednesday unveiled the largest hard drives available for PCs. A 25Gb drive, the Deskstar 25GE, operating at 5,400 revolutions per minute, is designed for the consumer PC user. The 22Gb Deskstar 22GXP drive, operating at a faster 7,200 revolutions per minute, is targeted at video editors, engineers and scientists. The drives will be available

in PCs on sale before Christmas in systems from IBM, Gateway and Hewlett-Packard. In the first quarter of next year, the drives will be widely available.

IBM has announced the formation of a new software company, Corepoint Technologies, offering customer service and management software integrating voicemail, the Web and database information. The focus on customer services software is part of a strategy shift as IBM targets the higher-profit computer services and software businesses, lessening its reliance on hardware sales.

ATTENTION in the anti-trust trial brought against Microsoft by the US government turned to the so-called Wintel partnership between the software company and Intel. The Department of Justice (DOJ) said Microsoft had bullied Intel into dropping work on its own multimedia and Internet software. The DOJ argued that Microsoft feared Intel's Native Signal Processing (NSP) software, which used instructions from Intel's chips rather than Microsoft software code to make programs and applications run faster. In video excerpts, Bill Gates, Microsoft CEO, said its opposition was based on technical issues.

Steven McGeady, Intel's vice-president for content, said Microsoft made "credible and fairly terrifying" threats that support for Intel's MMX and P7 chips would be withheld if NSP development continued. McGeady said Microsoft had behaved similarly in trying to force Intel not to support Sun's Java programming language. Microsoft responded by using e-mail sent by McGeady to other companies to portray him as a disgruntled employee who held a grudge against Microsoft.

Damn! What a nice, bookish tycoon

The boss of Amazon.com is a cheerful guy who smiles a lot. And so he should, having made £2bn from his online bookstore. By Steve Homer

Jeff Bezos laughs a lot. But then again, why shouldn't he? He is a healthy 34-year-old, happily married, has a big yellow labrador, lives in a lovely house, loves his job, and, oh yes, in the last four years has made himself about \$2bn selling books on the Internet, as the most successful online retailer.

You could forgive the founder of Amazon.com - which is yet to move into profit - all this if he were your usual miserable paranoid business mogul. But he's not. He's a very nice guy. It's very irritating.

Four years ago Bezos was a high-flyer on Wall Street. Working in a quantitative hedge fund (don't ask), and he was a senior vice-president of doing very nicely. One day, looking around on the Web, he came across a number. "In the spring of 94, I found Web usage was growing at 2,200 per cent a year. It's very unusual that something grows that fast," he recalls with a chuckle.

Bezos knew that quite a number of people were already using the Web. So he extrapolated. "Anything with a non-trivial base line growing at 2,200 per cent a year might be invisible today but would be ubiquitous tomorrow. That was the wake-up call."

He carefully analysed 20 different products he thought could be sold on the Net. "You had to be able to build something that offered enough value to the customer for people to want to use this new and infant technology. Really, that meant you had to do something that could only be done online. I picked books primarily because there were more items in the category than in any other," Bezos explains. "Over three million books are actively in print. No one could build a bookstore with three million titles. The largest bookstores in the world - and there are only three this big - carry 170,000 titles. Most book shops have 30,000 to 100,000 titles."

Bezos, being something of a nerd (he studied computer science at Princeton University), invented "recommenderisation". "I projected myself into the future... When I am 80, what do I want to have done? I knew I would never regret having left Wall Street in the middle of the year, having forgone my 1994 bonus. By the time you are 80 you are not going to remember any of those things. But I thought I might regret not being involved in this thing called the Internet. Once I thought about it in that sort of way, I knew I would not regret taking the risk."

The first thing he needed was a base for his business. For many people, the Net is a virtual world, so you

can build your business anywhere. But if you want to build a large business, you will need staff. And that means a decent-sized city.

"Our base had to be in a city with a large pool of technical talent. I narrowed it down to four places, and settled on Seattle." Not only is Seattle a pool of technical talent (Microsoft is based there, as are many other computer firms), but it is near the largest book warehouse in the world.

Next, Bezos went for the traditional Silicon Valley approach for his HQ. "We rented a house and the office was in the garage. I wanted some of the start-up legitimacy that comes with starting in a garage." With this he dissolves into laughter yet again. "Now I know why people move out of garages though," he adds, laughing even harder. "It is not that they run out of room, it is that

At the start, orders were growing so fast that the bell rung for each new sale was switched off. 'It got very annoying,' remembers Bezos

they run out of electrical power. We had so many computers... that the circuit breakers kept tripping."

In one of the Net's neatest ironies, Barnes and Noble - the world's biggest book firm, Amazon.com's largest competitor in the online book market, and probably the company with the most to lose from the Amazon revolution - proved invaluable for the fledgling company. "We couldn't really bring people to our office, so we held all our early meetings in a café two miles away, which just happened to be inside a Barnes and Noble store."

Creating business relationships with suppliers and distributors was a big challenge, but getting book details on to Amazon's computers was a massive, laborious job. "We had over a year to do it. We used a variety of sources and some of it was hand-keyed in. There was no shortcut," Bezos recalls. "It was just a lot of hard work. Sometimes we would get data on the same book from multiple sources, but it would be in conflict so we built all sorts of heuristics [programs] to resolve that kind of ambiguity." Then it was just the minor question of developing the soft-

ware, testing the product, and getting the ball rolling. For most people this might have meant an advertising campaign, but Jeff Bezos did not even have a marketing budget.

"The Internet was a much smaller place three years ago. It's hard to actually remember - what the Internet was like three years ago. We had 300 beta customers [testing the system]. These were friends. We would e-mail them and would say: 'Please come and put our system through its paces, but don't tell anybody what we are doing.' Then [after six weeks], when we finally had all the bugs worked out of the system, we sent an e-mail to [them] to say we were ready and could they please tell their friends about it. And these friends told other friends."

By electronic word of mouth, and by being featured on the very young Yahoo site, Amazon's name spread rapidly. "In July 1995, we had our first real paying customer. It is very exciting when you get your first customer who is not a relative. All the staff were saying: 'Do you know this person? I don't know this person. Hey, how about you? Do you know this person?'" Bezos laughs hysterically remembering.

At first all Amazon's computers were set to sound a bell as an order came in, but that soon got switched off. "It got very annoying. In the very beginning it was just half a dozen sales a day, but within a few days it was several tens a day. Within a couple of months it was a hundred or more and then it accelerated. It was compound growth. If things double every day it doesn't take long to build up big numbers." Things grew much faster than even Bezos expected. "Our business plan does not even begin to resemble what has actually happened. I think one thing we missed was that the Internet was exclusively made up of early adopters at that time. So all the people online, even though it was a relatively small number compared with today, were [those] who liked to try new things."

"We had a unique proposition. On day one we were 10 times the size of the largest bookstores - it was over a million titles. So people were finding obscure books they'd been looking for for years and saying this was unbelievable. And they'd order, not expecting it to really work, thinking they did not have much to lose. And then the book would come and they would really be blown away. And then they would tell all their friends." As a result Amazon has grown and grown. In just over three years it has serviced 4.5 million customers. Not orders, customers. Sales run at about \$600m a year and Amazon is



Jeff Bezos laughs a great deal as he tells the story of Amazon.com

Nicola Kurtz

valued at over \$6bn. And today, it has its own five giant book warehouses. So where now for Amazon's so nice boss? Last month he launched Amazon.co.uk, which is growing faster than its parent. It is exciting, but it really is just more of the same. What excites Jeff Bezos is moving the business along. Four months

ago Amazon launched its online CD sales and has already become the world's biggest online music retailer. Next up is videos. But these specific lines are just the start.

"Our strategy is to become an electronic commerce destination. When somebody thinks about buying something online, even if it is

something we do not carry, we want them to come to us. We would like to make it easier for people online to find and discover the things they might want to buy online, even if we are not the ones selling them."

Bezos plans to link up with other merchants and direct customers to their sites - no doubt for a fee. But

the interview is getting just a little serious. So one last question: "Are you still enjoying creating this business?" "Oh yeah. I love computers, I love business, I love rapidly changing environments. How could I have a better job?"

With that, he dissolves into yet more helpless laughter.

Linux proves itself a worthy opponent to Windows giant

A few days ago a large US retailer confirmed that it will use a Linux-based solution for its new retail systems in more than 100 stores. Jay Jacobs, a men's and women's clothing chain, has officially announced that open source software is an acceptable alternative to Windows NT for running a commercial retail operation. Linux, for those who are not on top of the IT trends, is a free, open standard operating system which happily competes with Windows NT and has actually got a good chance of taking on the Microsoft biggie.

Linux runs off any hardware platform and, except for high-end multiprocessor tasks, has recorded a superior performance over both Unix and NT. It is continuously developed by an army of enthusiastic volunteers who run a special community of users, developers, documentation writers, support people and testers. It is free and support is provided by a number of software companies such as Red Hat.

Jay Jacobs' announcement marks a milestone in the transition of Linux from a hobbyist environment to a fully-fledged, industrial robust software platform. It may have helped at Oracle, Informix and Intel, but the fully supportive of Linux and have gone on record with their commitment. Many top IT suppliers are tired of Mi-

crosoft's hegemony and will happily support the Linux alternative as long as the new baby does the job.

Open source software has become a way of life for a large number of developers since Netscape released its source code a few months ago. That seismic move rattled the cage of the proprietary-oriented software companies and signalled the beginning of a new era in which the wit and intelligence of the collective programming skills of volunteers will take on the mighty software companies.

The risks are still high. Linux does not work for the large, multiprocessor tasks, and its support base, although enthusiastic, has not quite yet proven to be of industrial strength. So why did Jay Jacobs' IT people go for Linux? One of the reasons might have been the number of bad experiences the company had with proprietary software, where the moment you complete the development, you face a constant threat of lack of support. The reasons for ceasing support are countless. There may be a new version of the application coming up, and the supplier will not support the old one. There may be a recession and your vendor has gone out of business. There may have been a shift in the market and the product was

discontinued. Finally, it may not be supported on that new machine you have just obtained as part of the carefully thought through upgrade. Many long-suffering owners of e-commerce systems in the UK are currently in that boat, where some of the large IT suppliers have changed alliances rather suddenly and the current version of their e-commerce application has suddenly stopped being the centre of company strategy. Clients can be asked to change to a Microsoft solution because Unix is not on the supplier's list of partners. If the client's architecture doesn't allow that, then they are on their own.

Since Linux is simpler to develop for than NT because it has



EVA PASCOE
Many IT suppliers will readily support an alternative to Microsoft's hegemony

open source code, it has created a hydra of multiple pro-

gramming heads in various parts of the world. Thus problems are identified quickly, solved and the results shared by posting them to newsgroups. This speed of knowledge growth is staggering and neither Unix nor NT can even start to compete, considering that each of them have a limited number of developers on their teams, while Linux has the headspace of thousands of the cleverest young programmers.

However, this is where the drama starts. Realising that Linux is gathering momentum, Microsoft has just woken up and developed a "kill" strategy. Two memos, leaked on Halloween night from high-level Microsoft cyborgs, have demonstrated that Bill Gates is

not going to let Linux steal the show. The memos identify the success of Linux as a function of allowing people to use open protocols such as e-mail or HTML, and therefore forcing Microsoft to live with a commoditised environment. According to the leaked memos, those protocols can be "de-commoditised". In effect, that will destroy the environment in which many people can develop new applications due to open standard in a widely accessible environment.

Now is the time for swift action to freeze the open standards of key protocols and impose heavy fines on the companies which don't toe the line. The de-commoditising of open standard protocols would

quickly lead to higher prices for networked applications, suppressing competition, reducing choice and, worst of all, having more Microsoft on our desktops, cash tills, TVs, organisers and other future computing devices.

The stellar progress of Linux makes us all question what infrastructure is required to write good code. If a virtual team of worldwide hobbyists can come up with the goods that a bunch of highly paid people in big companies with big company cars couldn't resolve, then what is the added value of a corporate structure based around programming teams?

Before Linux, it was a commonly shared assumption that anarchy is worse than organi-

sation, and that software written by developers organised in tidy teams and supervised by a manager in a suit is better than software developed by volunteers in a self-organised community with no manager in sight.

If I were an IT manager, I would be very worried indeed. The inflated costs of software we pay today to cover managers and their cars will go out of the window when clients realise that there is an alternative thanks to open source code. Bill Gates should be joining the hackers, or taking a deep breath. If Linux continues its progress, it will not be good news for Microsoft, but it will be great news for the consumer. eva@never.com



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3D goes to town

Three-dimensional computer modelling could revive public interest in 'boring' but vital town hall decisions. By Paul Gosling

Competing pressures over land use are growing, with environmental groups winning support to resist most new development. Yet there is a strong expectation of continued economic growth – and a recent report from two Government departments concluded that the slowness of local authorities in taking planning decisions holds back commercial expansion.

But planning decisions can move away from the dry and boring council committee room and into a forum of open public debate if a system of "3D modelling" is adopted, say the system's authors. New plans would be seen not just on a map, but as virtual reality while pretending to walk down a high street, stroll across a field, or look out from the back garden.

The new system has been developed in the Netherlands, where competing planning pressures on land use are enormous, with a high-density population and one of the world's most heavily used airports, Schiphol in Amsterdam, causing noise pollution across a wide area of flat countryside. The Dutch government is keen to achieve a consensus on plans for coping with the expanding air traffic.

"Speaking Netherlands", as the project is called, is currently being implemented in three areas to improve public consultation for contentious planning issues. The "Win-Wind" project enables people to see the visual impact of proposed new wind generators. Another scheme is to plan the evolution of the River Maas, around Maas-trick, to reconcile industrial development with the desire to improve the river as a habitat for nesting birds. The third project is to plan development in the Arnhem area.

"We want to get groups to understand each other's needs, to have them understand the urbanisation problem, to have each understand where others are coming from, and reach good compromises," says Ben Heideveld, an IT architect with Cap Gemini, one of the system's developers. "It is only by the grace of so many people living in high rises that there are still open spaces in the Netherlands. But if we go on putting up cities arbitrarily, we will lose all our big corners of open space. And we need

to look at skyline pollution, which is a big issue in the Netherlands."

"Speaking Netherlands" builds on an approach known in Britain as "planning for real", where residents affected by a proposed development – such as council tenants whose homes are to be replaced – can move scale models on a board, to produce a development which better suits their needs. It may help mothers or people with disabilities to see the distance between their new homes and shops and other facilities they use, and suggest changes in location. It could assist planners to change road layouts to make public transport more accessible.

But while these exercises can work in planning small localities, they are of limited use for larger areas, Heideveld says. "It is the scale of more than three kilometres (about two miles) which is difficult to understand without flying over in an aeroplane," he suggests. "We need to concentrate more on our large-scale planning process. To do this we need to present plans to people in 3D, moving from the map to the pedestrian perspective."

The 3D modelling works through a Silicon Graphics Octane virtual reality system, while other tools, like the Geo-Kiosk system, can run on an ordinary PC. In the future, it may also be accessible via interactive TV. The consortium that put together the system includes ESRI, a leading provider of geographical information systems (GIS); civil engineering companies; Amsterdam Free University; and planners from the city of Rotterdam, as well as software engineers Cap Gemini.

The proposal for the system came from the Dutch Metropolitan Debate Foundation, which asked a government-backed body, the LWI, to find partners to develop it, and to provide the balance of the funding. The LWI was established to promote a "knowledge infrastructure" across the Netherlands.

Trials of the scheme took place last year at two conferences – one for interested parties and experts, and the other for members of the public. At each event, there were role-play exercises to make long-term planning decisions, and then the delegates saw how these were implemented over a



In the world of 3D modelling, town plans would be seen not just on a map but as virtual reality for the user

10-year period. A new set of planning decisions was then taken, and again the 10-year effects were viewed. Delegates were able, during the course of a day, to see how planning decisions might impact over a 30-year period.

Participants were enthusiastic about creating an environment which not only enabled lobbyists to see the impact of their own proposals, including the knock-on effects, but also encouraged people to take a more consensual approach. In one role-play exercise, environmentalists agreed to

drop their opposition to an expansion of Schiphol Airport in return for ending reclamation of an ecologically important river. Decisions were taken at the conference by simple votes, but delegates could call a wider referendum for important issues. It might eventually be possible for the Geo-Kiosk system to be consulted by the general public over the Internet for a real referendum to help decide on competing planning proposals.

Planners in Britain are enthusiastic about using the scheme here. A spokesman

for the Local Government Association, which represents local authorities, said: "This might help planners to speed up the process of determining planning decisions, which we are very keen to achieve."

Ian Gilfoyle, the Royal Town Planning Institute's IT and GIS adviser, added: "We would welcome it. It will help not only the public but also [council] committee members to see what planning proposals really mean. The trouble is that very few local authorities are sufficiently far forward to have a computer system in committee

meetings. We need to develop ideas like this for decision-makers."

"In the past, the technology has been in the lead, and really it is the planners and the system users who have to get into the driving seat to get what we want."

It is to be hoped that 3D modelling will also increase public interest in a process that is often seen as too boring to pay attention to, even though it has a strong impact on our lives.

Making planning sexy would indeed be a real achievement.

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Rollovers tell you where you're going from a link

JAVASCRIPT rollovers are everywhere on the Web, and are the most popular way of providing visitors to a site with dynamic feedback about the link they are about to press. The mouse pointer passes over a hypertext link, and the graphic changes its appearance, and then reverts back to its old look.

This is done using JavaScript and event handlers, which tell the browser to act when an event happens.

We'll set up an array to store the location of the images we want to swap round; the JavaScript function, toggle0, and put event handlers into link tags to tell our images when to change. If you want an example go to: <http://www.webbedenvironments.com/examples/45.html>

Setting up the Array

An array is a special type of variable that can store several different values. We'll be storing all names of the images we'll be using in the rollovers. This code goes into the JavaScript in the <HEAD> of your HTML:

```
if (document.images) {
  img = new Array();
  img[0] = "images/o1_off.gif";
  img[1] = "images/o1_rdy.gif";
  img[2] = "images/o2_off.gif";
  img[3] = "images/o2_rdy.gif";
  img[4] = "images/o3_off.gif";
  img[5] = "images/o3_rdy.gif";
  im = new Array();
  for (var i = 0; i < img.length; i++) {
    im[i] = new Image();
    im[i].src = img[i];
  }
}
```

Each graphic location in the img[] array has its own unique number – starting with 0 not 1 – which we can use to reference the graphic in the array. To actually load each of those images into the browser, we use the im[] array. The toggle function (below) then uses the im[] array to swap graphics back and forth. You can add as many different images as you want to the img[] array for inclusion in the im[] array, but each needs its own unique number. For this example, I am loading six graphics – an "off" and "rdy" (ready) version of each graphic.

Doing the work

Now to create the function that will swap our graphics back and forth.

```
function toggle(imgName,num){
```

WEB DESIGN



JASON
CRANFORD
TEAGUE

JavaScript and
event handlers give
your Web links
added feedback

```
if (document.images && imgName) {
  imgName.src = im[num].src;
  return;
}
```

The function toggle0 is fairly straightforward. First, it checks to make sure that this browser can swap images (document.images) and if the image that is being referenced actually exists (imgName). Then it changes the source of the image called imgName for the source of the image in the array (set up above) referenced by the num variable.

Changing one image for another Now in the body of your HTML, add the following link and image (Of course, you actually have to have created the graphic being used):

```
<A HREF="option1.html"
ONMOUSEOVER="toggle(o1,1)"
ONMOUSEOUT="toggle(o1,0)">
<IMG HEIGHT="45" WIDTH="100"
SRC="images/o1_off.gif"
BORDER="0" NAME="o1">
```

First, notice that the image in this code has been given a name: o1. All images that will be changed need their own unique name. When the mouse is placed over this graphic (onmouseover), the toggle0 function is run using o1 for the imgName (the

name of the image to be changed) and 1 for num (1 corresponding to the ready version of our graphic in the img[] array). When the mouse pointer passes over the graphic (onmouseover) the toggle0 function is executed to change the o1 image again, but replacing it with img[0] which is the off version of the graphic.

Changing a different image There is no rule, though, that says you have to change the image that the mouse pointer is actually on. You could have the onmouseover event for one graphic change the source of another graphic on the screen.

```
<A HREF="option1.html"
ONMOUSEOUT="toggle(o2,2)"
ONMOUSEOVER="toggle(o2,3)">
<IMG HEIGHT="45" WIDTH="100"
SRC="images/o2_off.gif"
BORDER="0" NAME="o2">
```

Here the image called "redhearing" will run the toggle0 function, but the image that gets changed is called "o2" (right under it). You could also have a link using HTML text to cause the graphic to change, just substitute the image in the link for any text you want.

Changing an image in another frame Not only can you change images other than the one the mouse is over, you can even change them in other frames.

Now the image name will include a path to a graphic called "o3" in the frame called content. If that image does not actually exist, the toggle function just ignores this rollover.

After the click

Next week I'll show you how to highlight the button for content currently loaded, and make sure that the right button is always highlighted.

E-mail comments to Jason at indy_webdesign@mindspring.com

JP 11/15/98



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The cussing computer

Warning: this educational software may spew a barrage of obscenities at your children. By Iain Aitch

One can only imagine the rude words that must have gone through the minds of the executives at Panasonic Interactive Media in the US, upon discovering that their latest piece of educational software was swearing like a navy at the children it was supposed to be teaching to write.

Panasonic's Secret Writer's Society aims to help seven- to nine-year-olds with their writing by using a voice simulation to read back the compositions they have written. The problem occurs when the child writes a short passage and then impatiently double-clicks while waiting for the message to be read back. They are then treated to a barrage of obscenities from the filter that has been put into the program to stop children typing in bad words just for the fun of having them read back to them.

Panasonic became aware of the problem after receiving a write-up on Superkids, a specialist website which reviews educational software. Superkids urged parents not to buy the program, warning them that it "may spew obscenities at your child".

They liked the "cute songs and nice animation"; they did not like the fact that it called their reviewer an "asshole". The staff at Superkids contacted Panasonic, which duly posted a warning on their Secret Writer's Society website and offered free replacements to those parents who were subjected to the profanity. Panasonic had put the problem

down to a bug in the bad language filter and must have been tempted to reel off a string of cuss words themselves when it was announced last week that the swearing was the work of a rogue programmer. The programmer, who wishes to remain anonymous, claims that his action was a wake-up call to parents who are happy to let a machine take charge of their children's education.

"No program can replace the family," he explains. "But people have this awe of technology. They think it can do better than they can. I wanted to wake parents up to reality - here's what happens if you hand your responsibility to some machine."

The programmer was rewarded for this action with \$1,000 from Rmark, a group that funds sabotage

and creative crimes against corporations. Rmark has also previously funded a similar piece of subversive programming, in which homo-erotic scenes were inserted into the Maxis game SimCopter. The game was recalled and the programmer sacked after scenes with semi-clad, kissing men were discovered.

Ray Thomas, a spokesman for Rmark, says that they agreed to fund the programmer as his actions helped to "raise consciousness about corporate abuse". On the question of exposing children to bad language Thomas says: "We at Rmark have mixed feelings about this, but this meets our bottom-line criterion of being an anti-corporate critique or attack, and not causing physical injury."

Panasonic maintains that the

swearing was caused by a bug, which it has now fixed. "Our producer himself put in a buffer, and we tested it, but evidently we didn't test it well enough," says Elizabeth Olson, Panasonic's communications manager. "To our knowledge there is no truth to this claim. [Rmark] seem to be claiming responsibility for something they didn't have anything to do with."

Thomas is not surprised by Panasonic's reaction. He says the company is unlikely to acknowledge this sort of action "because it's much more disturbing to customers and, perhaps especially, shareholders, if it's not a random, relatively controllable thing like a bug, but rather the product of malice. It could be that they really do think it's a bug."

Software developers may well

need to be extra vigilant as Rmark steps up its campaigns of infiltration and subversion, with the lure of cash incentives for those with the wherewithal to carry out specific tasks. Rmark is currently offering \$400 to anyone who can substitute the pictures of the Spice Girls in Viewmaster slides with naked photographs of now-departed Ginger Spice, Geri Halliwell. In both cases the goods must actually make it to the shops for maximum embarrassment to the companies targeted.

The most worrying thing about this case for companies is that the "hacker" is no longer an anonymous geek at the end of a phone line. They are now in the workplace, where it is far easier for them to throw a spanner in the works.

HELPLINE

DANIEL ROBINSON

I WORK with Windows 3.11 and do all my word processing with Works for Windows 3. I have no problem converting files to other formats and sending them as attachments to e-mail, but when I receive attachments in Word or WordPerfect I cannot read them. If I do get them in the screen, I am confronted with gibberish.

I suspect that this version of Works for Windows simply has out-of-date file import filters. Every version of Microsoft Word saves files with a .DOC extension, even though the file format has changed several times since that version was released. You can either upgrade Works for Windows, or make sure that people send you documents in a file format it understands - something like Word for Windows 2.0 or WordPerfect 5.1.

IS IT possible for multiple users to have access to one Microsoft Outlook account on Windows NT, so that the Outlook is not for an individual on the network but rather a common identity that any user has access to?

No, Outlook is only a single-user application. But it can be used as a front-end client to Microsoft's Exchange Server, which would run on your NT server and function as the central point for all your e-mail. Each user would still have to have their own user name and password, but Exchange allows for public folders which can contain shared information.

ON THE Apple Mac, it is very easy to copy any image on to a file icon, but I have been unable to find out how to do this in Windows 95. I would like to add an image to some of my HTML file icons. Can you help?

Windows 95 can have any image for file icons, but there is no built-in way to translate the contents of an image file into its own "thumbnail" icon. There is an option in Windows 95 for this, but Windows 95 users are out of luck, unless you want to buy a third-party program such as Visioneer's Visual Explorer document manager.

Daniel Robinson is technical editor of PC Direct magazine. Send questions to Helpline, Network, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 3DL or e-mail to network@independent.co.uk with Helpline in the subject field.

MY TECHNOLOGY: PADDY ASHDOWN

Want a politician's ear? E-mail him

I use my e-mail three or four times a day, as there are about 500 to 600 people in the Lib Dems on e-mail, as well as most of our MPs. We have two e-mail numbers; one through which staff can contact me, and another for the general public to make use of.

I do a lot of communication with key people, and certainly with people in my office, using e-mail. My secretary finds it easier to work with and I am probably easier to work with this way as well. For instance, when I am away we send documents backwards and forwards.

I began to use e-mail 10 years ago when it was in its infancy and we ran my leadership campaign on e-mail. And recently we set up the Liberal Democrat conference system.

I have always believed politics is about communication, and e-mail is an additional means to communicate. I would find it virtually impossible to meet the demands and commitments of my role as an MP without e-mail. I'd probably have to sleep less! I can use it anywhere at any time, and it's a much more efficient means of communication than the telephone.

And - because members of the Liberal Democrats have access to a common conferencing system - it enables me to participate in party-wide discussions, revise speeches or draft letters - whether I'm in Aberdeen or Albania.

I can attach my mobile phone and communicate with staff and colleagues via e-mail from a bus or train as easily as from my office. I use a palmtop (an HP200LX), which travels with me everywhere I go, carrying it in my pocket, and it's used on a daily basis.



Paddy Ashdown is no stranger to technology - he's been using e-mail for 10 years

Ian Newton

"It's a fabulous machine; the disadvantage is it's MS-DOS, not Windows-capable. I was brought up on MS-DOS, however, and I prefer using it anyway."

"It carries my e-mail, my fax machine, and it has all my personal databases; spreadsheet programmes; my election-fighting programme; an election package which lets me put in the opinion polls and get a read-out; a French translator; and all the maps of Britain and France."

"It's an absolutely magnificent machine, and I couldn't do without it. I also have a Compaq laptop which enables me to access the Internet. And a pager. So I am pretty well contactable anywhere."

Certainly, the Liberal Democrats were the first political party to really use this technology. And the Liberal Democrats were the first to use such technology in a general election. I acted as a consultant to the initial election program which enables the details of the electoral roll to be placed online.

Personally, I have had a fascination with technology since getting my first computer back in 1980. These days, computers play a vital role in every field of working life.

"I have been saying for more than a decade that technology will change literally everything about our lives - technology will change the way that we run our work; technology will change the way that we do business; and technology will change all the inter-relationships of our society."

INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

Paddy Ashdown's e-mail address is: paddyashdown@iciz

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WEBSITES

BILL PANNIFER

HRH goes http, photos inc

The Prince of Wales
<http://www.princeofwales.gov.uk/>

A day after launch, the Prince of Wales's new site had accumulated 1.75 million hits. Linked to, but independent of the

mothership (<http://www.royal.gov.uk/>), the new online presence is meant as a platform for direct communication with the public. The voluminous, 354-page production includes a biography, picture gallery and continuously updated details of HRH's activities, while the design, from the Press Association's new media division, is gimmick-free and efficient, rather than palatial. The most useful aspect may be the fully indexed database of the Prince's speeches and articles. An Online Forum solicits visitors' views: selected e-mails are posted at the site, though, of course, "it will not be possible to respond individually".

The China Society for Human Rights Studies
<http://www.humanrights-china.org>

A bracingly different perspective, or just rhetorical hot air? Plenty of both in this intriguing Chinese account, official in all but name, of its human rights record. Less a website than a filing



Pay a right royal visit to the Prince of Wales's site

cabinet, these pages tend to emphasise "subsistence" and "state sovereignty" as human rights above all others, along with the expected counter-critique of the USA's own failings. Some of the arguments are persuasive, and even aspects of the party line on Tibet, criticising those who want the country to remain a "museum culture" for tourist purposes, might seem seductive - were it not for the reality on the ground. For a critical view on the same subject, try Human Rights in China, <http://www.humanrights-china.org>.

Heinz@Home
<http://www.heinz.co.uk>
A canned history of Britain since 1888 is among the goodies on show at this technically ambitious,

multi-layer site for Heinz in the UK. The closing years of Queen Victoria are evoked by Mr Heinz's first sale at Fortnum and Masons while on a trip from the US, and his Zelig-like spirit hovers over key events of the 20th century. Lots of nutritional advice, too, and an online ordering service, Heinz Direct, starts next month, but a "Baby Hamper" (soft food and Farley's Rusk) can already be purchased online for £29.99 and delivered to, say, Afghanistan, for an additional £75.

Reality Check
<http://www.realitycheck.co>
This newly-launched forum is a rather self-conscious crusade to raise the level of online debate. Participants

are required to stay with the conversation for at least four weeks, and the exchanges take place in small, manageable, and it is hoped, friendly groups. It is subject-specific and free of charge. Visitors are allowed to lurk and "listen", but not to contribute until they sign up. The non-profit group behind the site aims to enable risk-taking debate rather than what it calls "drive-by postings" - quite a challenge when the first topic is the Clinton scandal.

Welcome to the New and Improved Amazing CowCam!
<http://www.acowcam.com/>

"TuCows" is the name of a famously useful software download site. But this page, promoting a rural US access provider, really is just two cows, standing around in a muddy field. A couple of Jerseys - as in New Jersey - here patrol their paddock beneath the all-seeing Web camera. Africanist this is not, yet despite the lack of drama, Hamburger and Cheeseburger ("no sense having cute names when you plan on eating 'em") claim to have generated some 450,000 hits.

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ILFORD
ODEON (08705 050007) Gants Hill Antz 2.30pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm. Blade 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm. Snake Eyes 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm

KINGSTON
ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston Antz 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm. Elizabeth 6pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 2.30pm. Hope Floats 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm

MUSWELL HILL
ODEON (08705 050007) Highgate Antz 1.30pm, 3.20pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm. Blade 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm. Snake Eyes 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm

PECKHAM
PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Antz 11.50am, 3.50pm, 5.50pm, 7.50pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 4.05pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm. Halloween: H20 9.45pm. Hope Floats 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 9pm. Mulan 11.45am, 3.35pm, 5.30pm. A Perfect Murder 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.25pm. Small Soldiers 12.05pm, 4.55pm, 7.10pm. Snake Eyes 7.20pm, 9.40pm. The Truman Show 9.20pm

PURLEY
ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley Antz 6.15pm, 8.40pm. Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas 5.45pm, 8.15pm. Hope Floats 5.40pm, 8.10pm

PUTNEY
ABC (0870 9020401) BR: Putney/ABC Putney Bridge Antz 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm. Elizabeth 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm. Hope Floats 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm

RICHMOND
ODEON (08705 050007) BR/ve Richmond Antz 1.00pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm, 9.40pm. Blade 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm. Snake Eyes 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007)
BR/ve Richmond Elizabeth 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm. Hope Floats 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm. The Truman Show 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.40pm

ROMFORD
ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford Antz 2.05pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm. Blade 12.20pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm. Hope Floats 2.10pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007)
BR: Romford Antz 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9pm. Blade 12.15pm, 3.05pm, 6pm, 8.35pm. Elizabeth 12.25pm, 3pm, 5.35pm, 8.15pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 12.20pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9.40pm. Hope Floats 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.35pm. Mulan 4.20pm. Saving Private Ryan 12.20pm, 7.50pm. Small Soldiers 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.50pm. Snake Eyes 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm. There's Something About Mary 8.20pm

SIDCUP
ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Antz 6pm, 8.45pm. Hope Floats 5.50pm, 8.30pm

STAPLES CORNER
VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Cricklewood Antz 12.45pm, 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm. Blade 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm. Elizabeth 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm. Mulan 2.15pm, 4.40pm. Snake Eyes 7pm, 9.20pm. The Truman Show 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

STREATHAM
ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hall Antz 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 8.25pm, 8.40pm. Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas 2.25pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm. Hope Floats 2.30pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm

ODEON (08705 050007)
BR: Streatham Hall Blade 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm. Elizabeth 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm. Mulan 2pm, 4.30pm. The Player's Club 6.30pm. Snake Eyes 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm. There's Something About Mary 8.40pm

STRAITFORD
NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (055 3366) BR/ve Stratford East Antz 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm, 7.25pm. Blade 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm. Hope Floats 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

SUTTON
UCI (0990-888990) Morden Antz 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm. Blade 3pm, 6.15pm, 9pm. Elizabeth 3.15pm, 9.15pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm. The Land Girls 1.15pm, 7.15pm. Mulan 2.45pm, 5pm. Saving Private Ryan 6.30pm. Small Soldiers 1.30pm, 3.30pm. Snake Eyes 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm. There's Something About Mary 5.45pm. The Truman Show 6pm

TURNPIKE LANE
CORONET (0181-888 2519) BR: Turnpike Lane Antz 4pm, 6pm, 8.45pm. Blade 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm. Snake Eyes 1.30pm, 4.20pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm. There's Something About Mary 10.10pm

SURREY QUAYS
UCI (0990-888990) Surrey Quays Antz 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm. Blade 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.45pm. Elizabeth 7.10pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm. Halloween: H20 10pm. Mulan 1.30pm, 3.15pm, 4pm, 5.30pm. Saving Private Ryan 8.30pm. Small Soldiers 1.50pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm. There's Something About Mary 10.10pm

UNBRIDGE
ODEON (08705 050007) Unbridge Antz 1.45pm, 3.45pm, 7pm. Blade 1.40pm, 5.35pm, 8.35pm. Snake Eyes 9pm

WALTHAMSTOW
ABC (0870-9020424) Walthamstow Central Antz 2.30pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm. Blade 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm. Hope Floats 2.05pm, 5.10pm, 8.15pm

WALTON ON THAMES
THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton on Thames Antz 2.45pm, 4.45pm, 6.45pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) (18): George of the Jungle (12): Mousie (Hunt): Mulan (U): Snake Eyes (15): The Truman Show (PG)

WELL HALL
CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Well Hall Antz 4pm, 6pm, 8.45pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm

WIMBLEDON
ODEON (08705 050007) BR/ve Wimbledon/ve South Wimbledon Antz 2.05pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm. Blade 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm. Elizabeth 5.45pm, 8.30pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 2.40pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm. Small Soldiers 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm

WOOD GREEN
NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) BR: Turnpike Lane Blade Mian Chote Mian 5pm. Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 8.50pm. Prun Kuch 1.30pm

WOODFORD
ABC (0181-989 3463) BR: South Woodford Antz 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm. Elizabeth 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.10pm. Hope Floats 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.15pm

WOOLWICH
CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Antz 4pm, 6pm, 8.45pm. The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Release) 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm

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Revue-style show featuring the songs of Jerry Herman. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 5987) BR/ve Charing Cross Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm

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BOOGIE NIGHTS
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Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000) BR/ve Charing Cross Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm

THE WOMAN IN BLACK
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THEATRE

WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today, times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. Seats at all prices - Seats at some prices - Returns only. Matinees: [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

ALARMIS AND ENCOUNTERS
Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages. Stars: Felicity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) BR/ve Charing Cross Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (5/7) 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.45pm, 10.15pm

AMADEUS
David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama. Old Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616) BR/ve Charing Cross Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4/7) 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.45pm, 10.15pm

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
Lavish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) BR/ve Charing Cross Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4/7) 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.45pm, 10.15pm

THE BEST OF TIMES
Revue-style show featuring the songs of Jerry Herman. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 5987) BR/ve Charing Cross Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm

BLOOD BROTHERS
Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musical melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) BR/ve Charing Cross Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm

BOOGIE NIGHTS
Shane Richie stars in a lively new musical. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888) BR/ve Charing Cross Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm

WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND
Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000) BR/ve Charing Cross Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm, (4/7) 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm

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MONDAY RADIO

RADIO 1

87.5-98.8MHz FM
9.00 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Redcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Dave Pearce. 8.00 Lamacq Live with Mary Anne Hobbs. 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Clive Warren. 4.00 - 8.30 Scott Mills.

RADIO 2

88-90.2MHz FM
6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Richard Allinson: Sits in for Ken Bruce this week. Classic hits, new chart breakers, love songs, the Headline Hunt and the PopMaster quiz. Call 0171 765 5682. 10.00 John Inverdale: Sits in for Jimmy Young for the first of three weeks. Talking to the people who make the news. Phone the comment line on 0500 288291. Lines open from 11.30am to 11.55pm. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Humphrey Lyttelton. 8.00 Big Band Special: Sheila Tracy presents the BBC Big Band, conducted by Barry Forgie. 8.30 Up a Lazy River with George Melly. 9.30 The Rock 'n' Roll Years. 10.30 Nicky Horne. 12.00 Katrina Leskanen. 3.00 - 4.00 Alex Lester.

RADIO 3

90.2-92.4MHz FM
8.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Johannes Brahms. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.05 The BBC Orchestras. 3.00 Opera in Action. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 In Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. More from the London Symphony Orchestra's Shostakovich retrospective, conducted by the composer's friend Mstislav Rostropovich. Sergei Aleksashin (bass), London Symphony Chorus (bass voices), LSO/Mstislav Rostropovich. Shostakovich: Dradsen in Ruins (Film music 'Five Days - Five Nights'); Symphony No 12 (The Year 1917); Symphony No 13 (Babi Yar). 9.35 Postscript. Five pro-

PICK OF THE DAY

IF YOU think that most prisoners serving life sentences are hardened criminals, think again: lifers are typically inexperienced criminals whose crimes are the product of momentary rage or panic. In *Managing Life* (8pm R4), Ed Stark talks to life-sentence prisoners in Glenochil jail in Scotland about how they cope with life in prison. Today, she talks to them about facing up

to their crimes, and the culture which flourishes behind bars. As one of the world's best-loved broadcasters approaches his 90th birthday, his biographer, Nick Clarke, offers us *Alastair Cooke - A Celebration* (8.45am R4). This evening, *Nature: Bees in the Desert* (9pm R4, right) looks at their history and an unusual variety found in Arizona.

ROBERT HANKS



grammes celebrating 50 years of photojournalism from the world's most famous photo agency. 1: 'The Way the World Was'. 10.00 Voices. 'Cityhopper'. Iain Burnside packs his bags for a round trip to the world's great cities in song. 10.45 Mixing it. Mark Russell and Robert Sandall host an all-CD edition, with stimulating, startling and striking sounds of all shapes and sizes. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Claude Debussy. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

RADIO 4

92.4-94.6MHz FM
6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS: Start the Week. 9.45 Serial: Alastair Cooke - e Celebration. See *Pick of the Day*. 11.00 NEWS: East End Law. 11.30 Nemesis. 12.00 NEWS: You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Round Britain Quiz. 2.00 NEWS: The Archers. 2.15 NEWS: Afternoon Play: *Life's Little Ironies* - an imaginative Woman. 3.00 Money Box Live: 0171 580 4444. 3.30 Revangel. 3.45 Revangel. 4.00 NEWS: The Food Programme. 4.30 Turning World. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather.

6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The Morning Show. 7.00 NEWS: The Archers. 7.30 Front Row. Mark Lawson puts his foot down in search of the best car chases in cinema history. 7.45 Still Waters. Part 6 by Ann Marie Di Mambro and Robert Patterson. Kate's husband is missing - should she declare him dead? A stranger arrives, throwing the family into confusion. With Ann Scott-Jones, Emma Currie and Liam Brennan. Director Patrick Ryan. 8.00 NEWS: Managing Life. Four programmes in which Ed Stark, granted unprecedented access to a Scottish jail, talks to life-sentence prisoners in Glenochil. 1: Prisoners speak about adjusting to prison culture. See *Pick of the Day*. 8.30 Analysis. 'Who's Afraid of the Multinationals?' The world economy works for the benefit of footloose multinational firms who profit most from global brand names, seeking out the lowest wages and least regulated workplaces - or does it? Frances Cairncross examines the role and power of the multinational in today's economy. 9.00 NEWS: *Nature: Bees in the Desert*. The Sonoran Desert in Arizona is home to a greater diversity of bees than anywhere else in the world. Gerry Norrhen traces the history and conservation of the forgotten pollinators. See *Pick of the Day*. 9.30 Start the Week. Jeremy Paxman sets the cultural agenda for the week, with guests including American writer Bill Bryson, historian David Cannadine and novelist AS Byatt. 10.00 The World Tonight. With Isabel Hilton. 10.45 Book at Bedtime. Le Grand Meaulnes. Philip Franks reads Alain-Fournier's classic story of adolescent idealism, love and the search for the lost domain. Abridged by Doreen Estall (8/10). 11.00 Radio 4 Appeal. Sue Lawley speaks for Triumph Over Phobia, a charity which helps those who suffer from phobia and obsessive compulsive disorder. 11.02 Killyard Blues. 11.30 Aerial Views. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: A Man in Full. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

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